

Official Statistics

Scottish Climate Survey 2024: main findings

April 2025

Contents

Executive Summary	3
Glossary	7
1. Background, aims and methodology	9
1.1 Introduction to the survey	9
1.2 Background.....	9
1.3 Objectives	10
1.4 Reporting	11
1.5 Methodology	11
1.6 Sampling and fieldwork	12
1.7 Questionnaire development.....	12
1.8 Weighting and data analysis.....	12
2. Views on climate change	14
2.1 Knowledge about climate change.....	14
2.2 Attitudes towards climate change	16
2.3 Speaking to others about climate change	19
2.4 Sources of information about climate change	20
2.5 Feelings about climate change	22
2.6 Feelings about climate change and daily activities.....	24
3. Experience of severe weather events.....	27
3.1 Experience of severe weather events	27
3.2 Likelihood of experiencing severe weather events.....	28
3.3 Preparedness for severe weather events.....	29
3.4 Demographic differences relating to expectation of and preparedness for severe weather events.....	32
3.5 Impact of severe weather events.....	33
3.6 Loss of power	35
4. Climate change adaptation actions	37
4.1 Taking adaptation action	37
4.2 Reasons for not taking action	39
5. Mitigation behaviours	42
5.1 Most effective actions for mitigating climate change	42
5.2 Consideration of the environmental impact of day-to-day activities	44

6. Transport	46
6.1 Active travel	46
6.2 Car sharing	50
6.3 Local decision making about transport	54
7. Home energy and heat decarbonisation	58
7.1 Affordability of energy bills	58
7.2 Energy efficiency measures	60
7.3 Clean and renewable heating systems	63
8. Food and diet	71
8.1 Food choices	71
8.2 Prevalence of food choices among friends, family or colleagues	74
9. Nature and the built environment	75
9.1 Knowledge about Scotland’s biodiversity crisis	75
9.2 Frequency of spending time in green and blue spaces	76
9.3 Perceived benefits of spending time in green or blue space	78
9.4 Involvement in decision making about local public spaces	79
10. Impacts of the transition to net zero	84
10.1 The perceived impacts of Scotland’s transition to net zero	84
10.2 The impact of the transition to net zero on employment	89
Tell us what you think	93
Enquiries	93
Join our mailing list	93
Future publications	93

Executive Summary

The Scottish Climate Survey is a nationally representative survey of Scottish adults' awareness, understanding and experiences of climate change-related issues.

Views on climate change

- Over six in ten (62%) respondents said they knew a great deal or a fair amount about climate change.
- Almost three quarters (72%) felt climate change is an immediate and urgent problem, while 13% felt it is more of a problem for the future.
- Around two in five (39%) said they had spoken to others about climate change at least once a week in the last month.
- The most trusted source of information or advice about climate change was universities, research organisations or scientists (74%), followed by the Scottish Government (39%), major national charities or third sector organisations (32%), and the UK Government (31%).
- When asked how thinking about climate change made them feel, respondents most commonly said they felt 'worried' (46%), 'powerless' (35%) or 'sad' (26%).
- Just under a quarter (24%) of respondents said that their feelings about climate change never have a negative effect on them. Just over one in ten (11%) reported that their feelings about climate change have a negative effect on them constantly or often as they go about their daily activities.

Experience of severe weather events

- Most households reported that they had experienced storms and strong winds (89%), extremely heavy rain (79%) or very low temperatures, snow and ice (56%) in the last 12 months.
- While most households expected to experience storms and strong winds (94%) and extremely heavy rain (92%) in future, they were less likely to report that they felt prepared for these events (59% and 64% respectively).
- Fewer households reported that they had experienced flooding (22%), heatwaves (11%) or drought (2%), or thought they were likely to experience these weather events in the future.
- Among households that had experienced a severe weather event in the last 12 months, the most commonly reported impacts were: property damage (21%), being unable to socialise with friends or family (21%), being unable to access local outdoor space (20%), and a negative impact on mental health (19%).

Climate change adaptation actions

- The level of uptake of adaptation actions was relatively low overall, and particularly low for flood resilience measures, which had been installed by just three per cent of households. The most commonly reported adaptation actions were: keeping blinds or curtains closed during warm weather (47%); actions to reduce the likelihood of wildfires when in the outdoors (29%); and signing up to receive severe weather warnings or flood alerts (27%).
- The most common reasons that respondents gave for not taking action to adapt to climate change were: limited knowledge about what to do and how to do it (36%); the perceived cost of adaptation actions (33%); and not seeing such actions as necessary for them or their homes (32%).

Mitigation behaviours

- Recycling was most commonly mentioned as among the four most effective actions for mitigating climate change, with over six in ten respondents (62%) selecting this. Next most mentioned were home energy efficiency measures (51%), minimising food waste (49%) and reducing use of electricity at home (48%).
- Two thirds of respondents (66%) reported they think about the environmental impact of their daily actions at least sometimes, while a third (32%) said they rarely or never think about this.

Transport

- Just under two thirds of vehicle owners (65%) stated that they choose to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle at least some of the time. However, most respondents (63%) believed it was not common for people they knew to choose to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle
- The use of transport sharing services was less common, with 33% saying they car shared with others from outside their household often or sometimes, and 14% that they used a formal transport sharing service.
- Under a quarter of respondents (23%) had been involved in decisions about transport in their local area in the past 12 months, most commonly by responding to an online public consultation or by contributing to a discussion online or on social media.
- Almost one in five (18%) said they would be willing to give up some of their time to be involved in decision making about transport locally. Higher proportions felt that they were happy for others to make these decisions (43%) or that, while they would like to have a say, spending time on this was not a priority for them (27%).

Home energy and heat decarbonisation

- A third of households (33%) were finding it difficult to afford their energy bills. More than four in ten (42%) said they were having to cut back spending on food and other essentials as a result of the need to spend more on energy bills.
- Most households (83%) had insulation installed in their home, with loft insulation being the most commonly installed type. The main perceived barriers to installing wall or floor insulation were cost and concerns about the installation being too disruptive.
- Ownership of clean and renewable heating systems was uncommon, with less than 5% of households reporting they had a heat pump installed at home. Cost and a lack of interest were the main barriers given to installing a heat pump.
- Just under six in ten respondents who had installed a heat pump (59%) said their home was warmer and almost half (49%) reported that they had saved money on energy bills. However, 18% said their home was colder and 25% said their energy bills had increased as a result.

Food and diet

- Around one in three respondents (29%) said they always or often prepared meat-free meals at home, while fewer (17%) reported they always or often chose meat-free options when eating out.
- Over half (53%) reported that they always or often intentionally buy seasonal fruit and vegetables, while 36% said that they intentionally buy locally produced food always or often. Those living in rural areas and the over 70s were more likely to say they did each of these.

Nature and the built environment

- Over three quarters of respondents (77%) said they knew little or nothing about Scotland's biodiversity crisis, while around two in ten (19%) reported knowing at least a fair amount about this.
- Six in ten (62%) had spent time in local green or blue spaces at least once a week in the past month. A large majority agreed that this had benefits for their mental and physical health (both 86%).
- Disabled people, those living in Scotland's most deprived areas, tenants and non-graduates were all less likely than average to have spent time in local green or blue spaces over the previous month.
- Just over one in five (22%) respondents said they had been involved in decision making about the use of local public spaces in the past year. The main perceived barriers to involvement included lack of awareness about the existence of opportunities to get involved, needing more information about such opportunities and lack of time.

Impacts of the transition to net zero

- More than two in five (44%) respondents thought that the net zero transition would improve quality of life by 2045, compared to 11% who thought it would have made it worse.
- Views on whether the transition would have a positive or negative impact on the availability of jobs were more mixed, with most saying it would make no difference or that they did not know.
- Two in five respondents (41%) thought their job had been or would be affected by the transition to net zero: 7% said their job had already changed, 29% expected their job would require changes in the future, and 4% believed their job would no longer exist.

Glossary

<p>Active travel</p>	<p>Active travel is walking, wheeling or cycling for a purposeful journey. Wheeling includes using a wheelchair or mobility aid as an alternative to walking.</p>
<p>Biodiversity</p>	<p>Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth, and is essential for sustaining the ecosystems that provide food, fuel, health, wealth, and other vital services.</p> <p>Scotland is currently experiencing a 'biodiversity crisis' due to a decline in the variety and abundance of animal and plant life found across the country.</p>
<p>Green and blue spaces</p>	<p>Green and blue spaces include the 'green' and 'blue' features of towns and cities that can provide environmental benefits and contribute to quality of life. Green spaces include countryside, woods, parks or play areas. Blue spaces are bodies of water and areas near them, such as beaches, rivers, lochs or canals.</p>
<p>Disabled respondents</p>	<p>Disabled respondents are those who said in their responses to the survey that they have a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting, or expected to last, 12 months that reduces their ability to carry out day-to-day activities.</p>
<p>Energy hub areas</p>	<p>Energy hub areas are the five local authorities in Scotland with the largest share of their employment being in the energy sector.</p> <p>Respondents living in the Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Falkirk, Highland or Perth and Kinross local authorities were classed as living in an energy hub area.</p>

<p>Flood risk areas</p>	<p>Flood risk areas are areas likely to flood from rivers, the sea and surface water. Respondents were classed as living in a flood risk area if their postcode fell within a Flood Risk Management Target Area (FRM TA). FRM TAs are the focus of targeted flood risk management objectives and actions, as identified in Scotland's National Flood Risk Management Plans 2021.</p>
<p>Scotland's transition to net zero</p>	<p>'Scotland's transition to net zero' means the actions being taken to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions. 'Net zero' would be achieved when the amount of emissions produced is equal to or less than the amount removed from the atmosphere.</p>
<p>SIMD areas</p>	<p>The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) looks at the extent to which an area is deprived across measures including income, employment, education, health, access to services, crime and housing.</p> <p>References to most and least deprived areas are based on the Scottish Government's SIMD 2020 quintiles, where SIMD area 1 includes the most deprived areas and SIMD area 5 includes the least deprived areas.</p>
<p>Urban / rural areas</p>	<p>Reference to urban and rural areas are based on the Scottish Government's 2-fold and 6-fold Urban Rural Classification 2022.</p>
<p>White / Minority ethnic respondents</p>	<p>In this report, the term 'White respondents' is used to refer to those who completed the survey and responded that their ethnic group was 'White - Scottish', 'White - other British', 'White - Irish' or 'White - other'.</p> <p>'Minority ethnic respondents' are those who responded that their ethnic group was any of 'Mixed or multiple ethnic group', 'Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British', 'African', 'Caribbean or Black' or 'Other ethnic group'.</p>

1. Background, aims and methodology

1.1 Introduction to the survey

The Scottish Climate Survey:

- is a survey of a representative, randomly selected sample of adults (16+) in Scotland
- uses a push-to-web methodology, allowing respondents to complete the survey online or through a postal questionnaire
- is voluntary
- is Scotland-wide
- cuts across policy areas, including heating and energy efficiency, transport, land use, climate change adaptation, just transition and biodiversity
- is wide-ranging in topics covered, including: attitudes towards climate change, experience of extreme weather events, mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, transport, home energy, diet, jobs and economic opportunities
- provides robust baseline statistics on the Scotland public's understanding, attitudes and behaviours related to climate.

1.2 Background

In 2019, the Scottish Government made a legally binding commitment to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 through the Climate Change (Emissions Reductions Targets) (Scotland) Bill, which amended the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. Achieving this ambitious target requires a rapid and comprehensive transformation of Scotland's economy and society. The Scottish Government has developed a wide-ranging policy framework to drive the transition to net zero, set out in the [Update to the Climate Change Plan 2018-2032](#), published in December 2020, and in subsequent [Programme for Government 2023-24](#). This includes strategies and interventions across key sectors such as energy, transport, heat in buildings, agriculture, land use, waste and industry.

The Scottish Government is committed to delivering a just transition to net zero, by working with communities, business, industry and Scotland's people to plan for the country's net zero future. In its 2021 [response](#) to the Just Transition Commission's [2019 report](#) the Scottish Government set out a long-term vision for achieving a fairer, greener Scotland, providing a framework against which future Just Transition Plans for high-emitting sectors will be developed. The Scottish Government's strategic approach to just transition is also a key principle in the 2022 [National Strategy for Economic Transformation \(NSET\)](#), sitting across the overall vision of a wellbeing economy, and particularly the ambition of a greener Scotland in which we "demonstrate global leadership in delivering a just transition to a net zero economy".

Since over 60% of the measures needed for Scotland to reach net zero require some level of change in the way society operates, the Scottish Government has also put public engagement at the heart of its approach to the net zero transition. Published in 2021, Scotland's [Public Engagement Strategy for Climate Change](#) emphasises the need to inform, inspire and empower individuals, communities and organisations to embrace low-carbon technologies and behaviours. In December 2023, the [Heat in Buildings Public Engagement Strategic Framework](#) was published, providing guidance on how the programme of public awareness raising around clean heat and energy efficiency will be delivered in Scotland. Meaningful dialogue with citizens is seen as essential for building and sustaining support for ambitious climate policies and for ensuring a just transition that benefits everyone.

To support this people-centred approach, policymakers require robust evidence on public attitudes, knowledge and behaviours related to climate change and the net zero transition. Existing large-scale surveys such as the Scottish Household Survey provide very useful data on high-level climate attitudes. However, there has been a lack of comprehensive, nationally representative Scottish survey data on public understanding, attitudes and behaviours covering the full breadth of energy and climate policies.

It is essential that the Scottish Government's Energy and Climate Change Directorate monitor and evaluate progress against its multiple strategies and plans. In 2024/25 these have included publication of the 3rd [Scottish National Adaptation Plan \(SNAP3\)](#) in September 2024 and the [National Flood Resilience Strategy](#) in December 2024, [draft Just Transition Plans for Grangemouth](#) (November 2024) and [Transport](#) (February 2025).

In addition to the significant developments in energy and climate change policy noted above, survey fieldwork took place over a time of wider societal, political and environmental change. The aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and the resulting energy market volatility had profound social and economic impacts across Scotland. Extreme weather events such as heatwaves, storms and flooding provided tangible evidence of the accelerating risks posed by climate change. The pace and direction of the net zero agenda also emerged as an issue dividing the UK's political parties ahead of the UK General Election held on 4th July 2024, with the Labour Party's manifesto calling for an acceleration towards net zero, while the Conservative Party manifesto focused on the costs of net zero and called for an 'affordable and pragmatic' transition.

1.3 Objectives

In this context, the Scottish Government, via its Centre of Expertise ClimateXChange, commissioned Ipsos to conduct a new nationally representative survey of Scottish adults aged 16 and over, fieldwork for which was carried out between October 2024 and January 2025.

The key aim of the survey is to generate reliable estimates of Scottish adults' awareness and understanding of, and engagement with, climate change-related issues. Findings from the survey are intended to serve multiple policy and public engagement objectives in Scotland. Results will support the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of key Scottish Government strategies and plans, and will also be used to inform communications and engagement activities by the Scottish Government and its agencies. Further, the data is intended to provide a valuable resource for external stakeholders involved in climate action and public engagement, including local authorities, businesses, the third sector, researchers and community organisations. The design of the survey enables replication in the future which will allow tracking changes in public attitudes and behaviour over time.

The survey is intended to provide timely, robust and representative evidence to inform Scottish energy and climate policy, enabling the Scottish Government to track the impact of current work and tailor future programmes of work on climate change across a range of important policy areas, including: heating and energy efficiency, the built environment, transport, climate change adaptation, just transition, and biodiversity. The questionnaire covers a wide range of topics, including: attitudes towards and concerns about climate change; awareness and understanding of net zero; experience of extreme weather events; adoption of and intentions towards actions aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change; behaviours related to transport, home energy, lifestyle and diet.

1.4 Reporting

This report of the Scottish Climate Survey results is designed to act as an introduction to the survey and to present and interpret some of the key policy-relevant results at a national level. The full dataset of survey results will be published alongside this report. Further technical information on the Scottish Climate Survey will also be published through the Technical Report. The Technical Report includes the survey questionnaire used during fieldwork and information detailing the methodology, questionnaire development process, sampling approach and fieldwork outcomes.

1.5 Methodology

The Scottish Climate Survey used a mixed-method push-to-web approach to achieve a nationally representative sample of 4,089 adults aged 16 and over in Scotland. Ipsos drew a stratified random sample of 19,340 addresses from the Postcode Address File (PAF). Sampled addresses received an invitation letter with a link to the online survey and a copy of a paper questionnaire. Up to two adults per household were invited to take part.

In total, 4,089 eligible surveys were received from 3,479 households (2,953 online and 1,136 postal surveys). The household-level response rate was 19.6% and the individual-level response rate was 13.1%¹.

Full details of the methodology are provided in the accompanying Technical Report.

1.6 Sampling and fieldwork

The sample was randomly selected from the Royal Mail's Postcode Address File (PAF) from among all households in Scotland. The sample of addresses was unclustered within each area. Households were disproportionately sampled in remote small towns and rural areas to allow for a large enough sample size in these areas to carry out reliable subgroup analysis.

Fieldwork was conducted between 21st October 2024 and 9th January 2025. Participants received a voucher worth £5 for a retailer of their choice as a thank you for their time in taking part in the research.

1.7 Questionnaire development

The questionnaire content was developed through an iterative co-design process with the Scottish Government. An initial stakeholder workshop was held to confirm priority topics and agree on questionnaire content. Existing relevant surveys were reviewed to identify potential question items for inclusion. The questionnaire was then drafted by Ipsos and refined through rounds of feedback from the Scottish Government.

In the interest of not increasing the paper questionnaire length beyond 16 pages, and to help reduce potential drop-out rates, ten questions from the online survey were not included in the paper questionnaire.

Prior to fieldwork, cognitive testing was conducted involving 20 qualitative interviews with participants from Scotland to test the usability and understanding of the questionnaire. Findings from the cognitive testing were used to revise and inform the final questionnaire.

1.8 Weighting and data analysis

The sample was weighted to match the adult population profile of Scotland using National Records of Scotland mid-2023 population estimates and the Scotland Census 2022 data.

¹ An estimated 8% of PAF addresses in Scotland are assumed to be non-residential (derived from the Scottish Household Survey and Scottish Crime and Justice Survey sampling assumptions). The average number of adults aged 16+ per residential household in Scotland is 1.75 (based on NRS Mid-2023 population estimates). Therefore, we used the following formulae to calculate the response rate: Household RR = number of responding households / (number of issued addresses*0.92); Individual RR = number of responses / (number of issued addresses*0.92*1.75).

Since more than one respondent per household could participate in the survey, for any questions requiring a factual response the results were based on households (rather than all respondents) to avoid double counting. Questions where the base was 'All respondents' were weighted by age, sex, Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) quintile, education, work status, rurality and tenure. For household-level questions, rim weighting by SIMD, rurality and tenure was applied.

Throughout the report, differences between sub-groups are commented upon only where these are statistically significant i.e. where we can be 95% certain that they have not occurred by chance.

Data analysis was conducted by key subgroups including demographics, geography, and other relevant characteristics. In this report, where survey results shown in charts do not sum to 100%, this may be due to computer rounding, multiple responses, or the exclusion of "don't know" categories.

All bases exclude any not stated responses to the postal questionnaire (for example, questions that were incorrectly left blank or completed in error). If the base size for a group differs in / between questions, this is due to the exclusion of not stated responses.

This work was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the international quality standard for Market Research, ISO 20252.

2. Views on climate change

This chapter summarises survey findings regarding public views on climate change. It explores knowledge and attitudes towards climate change, talking to others about it, trusted sources of information, and feelings about climate change.

Key findings

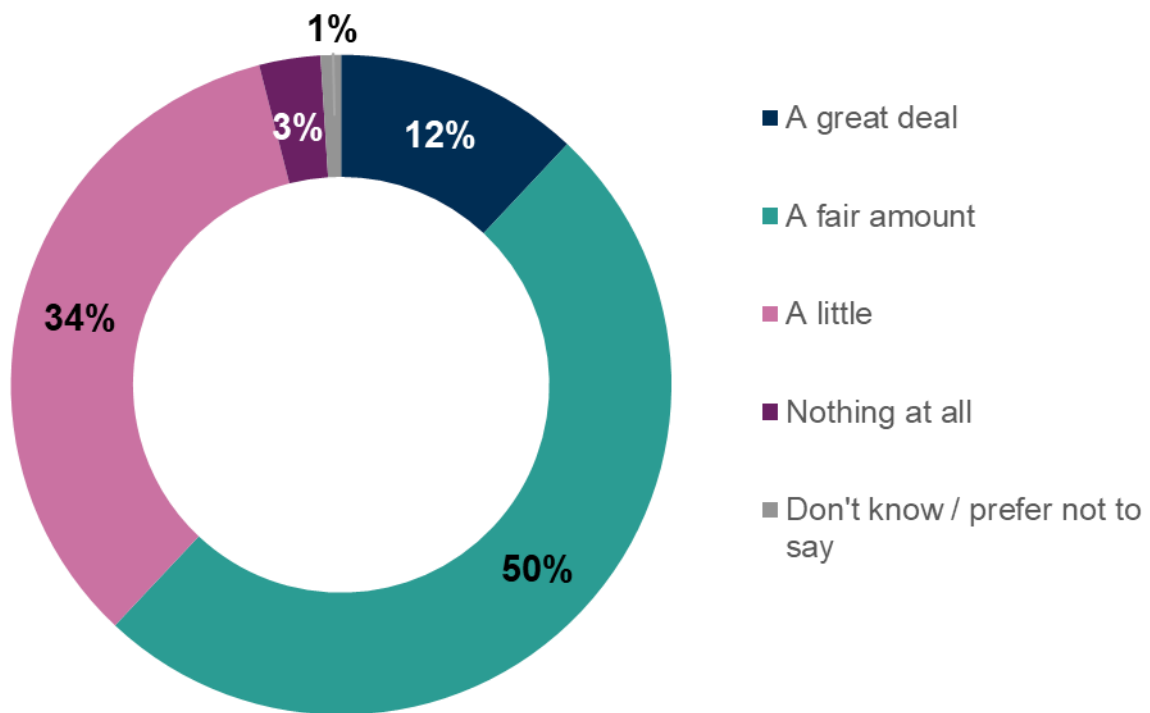
- Over six in ten (62%) respondents said they knew a great deal or a fair amount about climate change. Knowledge about climate change was linked to education and socio-economic status, with graduates, those with higher household incomes and those living in Scotland's least deprived areas more likely than average to say they knew at least a fair amount about this topic.
- Almost three quarters of respondents (72%) felt climate change is an immediate and urgent problem, while 13% felt it is more of a problem for the future.
- Around two in five respondents (39%) said they had spoken to others about climate change at least once a week in the last month, while more than a fifth (22%) said they had not spoken to others about climate change at all in the last month.
- The most trusted source of information or advice about climate change was universities, research organisations or scientists (74%), followed by the Scottish Government (39%), major national charities or third sector organisations (32%), and the UK Government (31%).
- When asked how thinking about climate change made them feel, respondents most commonly said they felt 'worried' (46%), 'powerless' (35%) or 'sad' (26%).
- Just under a quarter of respondents (24%) reported that their feelings about climate change never have a negative impact on them. Just over one in ten (11%) reported that their feelings about climate change have a negative effect on them constantly or often as they go about their daily activities.

2.1 Knowledge about climate change

Six in ten respondents (62%) said they knew a great deal or a fair amount about climate change. A further three in ten (34%) said they knew a little, while just 3% said they knew nothing at all about it (Figure 2.1).

Figure 2.1: Knowledge about climate change

Q. Overall, how much would you say you know about the topic of climate change?

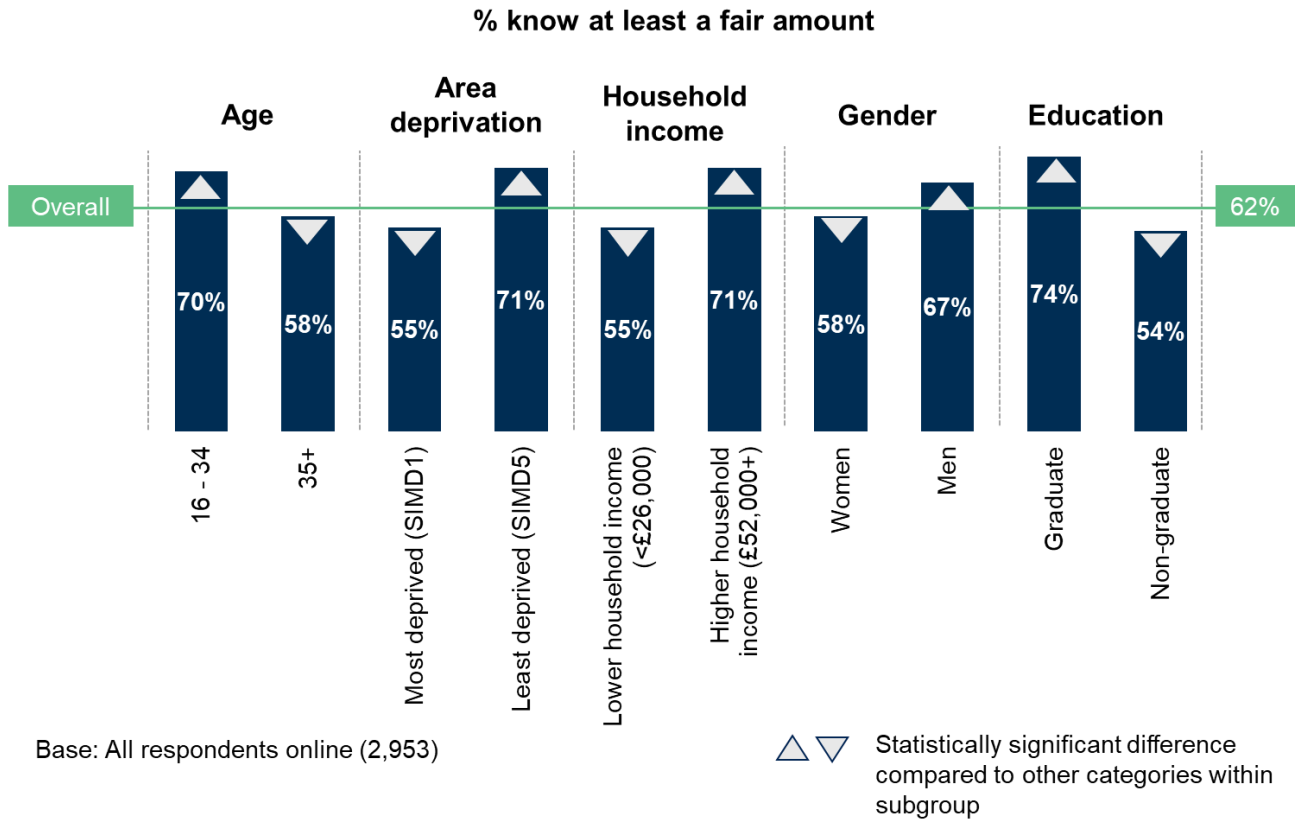


Base: All respondents online (2,953)

The following groups were more likely to say they knew at least a fair amount about climate change: men compared to women, graduates compared to non-graduates, young people aged 16 to 34 compared with those aged 35 and over, those with a higher household income of £52,000 and above compared to those with a household income of less than £26,000, and those living in the least deprived areas compared to those in the most deprived areas (Figure 2.2).

Figure 2.2: Groups more likely to say they knew at least a fair amount about climate change

Q. Overall, how much would you say you know about the topic of climate change?

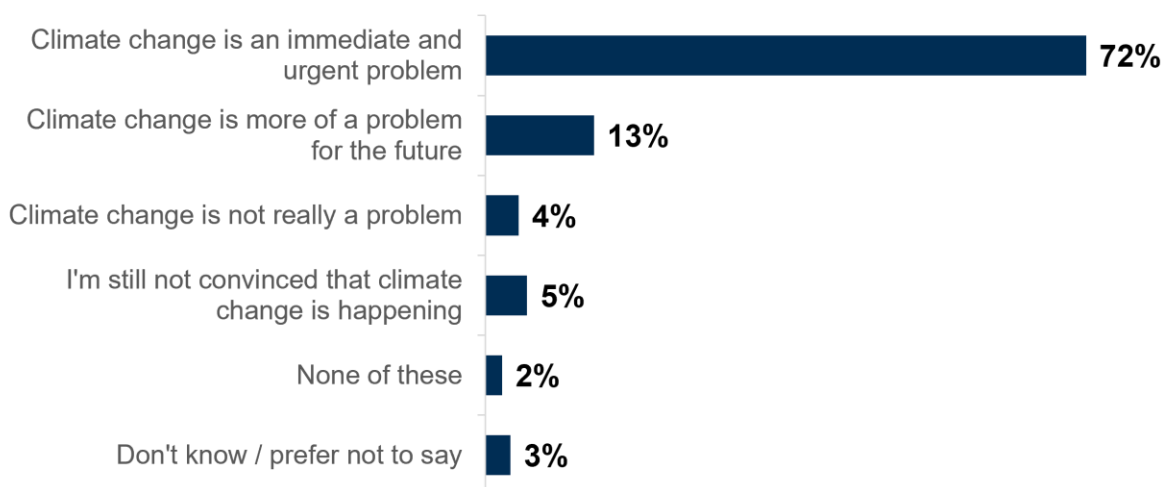


2.2 Attitudes towards climate change

Almost three quarters of respondents (72%) felt climate change is an immediate and urgent problem, while 13% felt it was more of a problem for the future. One in ten (9%) respondents felt climate change is not a problem or were not convinced that climate change is happening (Figure 2.3).

Figure 2.3: Attitudes towards climate change

Q. Which of these statements, if any, comes closest to your own view?

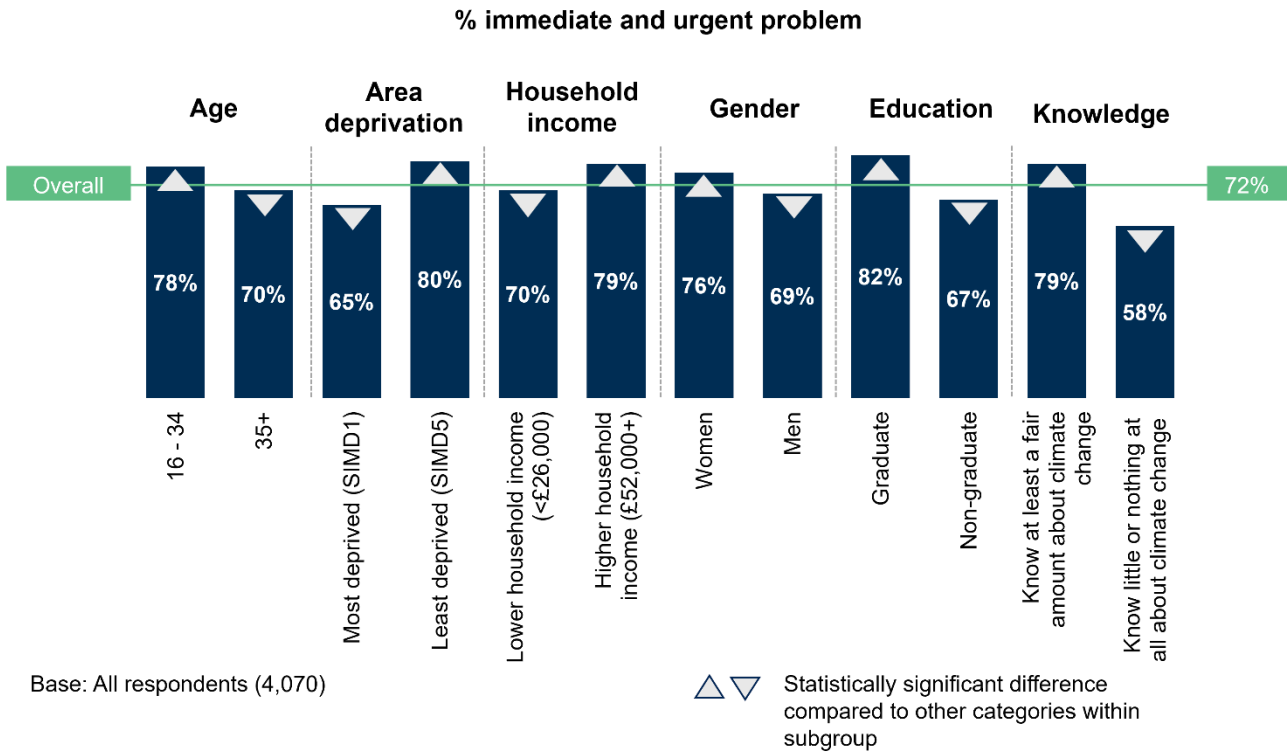


Base: All respondents (4,070)

Certain groups were more likely to say climate change is an immediate and urgent problem: women compared to men, graduates compared to non-graduates, young people aged 16 to 34 compared with those aged 35 and over, graduates compared to non-graduates, those with a household income of £52,000 and above compared to those with a household income of less than £26,000, those living in the least deprived areas compared to those in the most deprived areas, and those who know at least a fair amount about climate change compared to those who know a little or nothing at all (Figure 2.4).

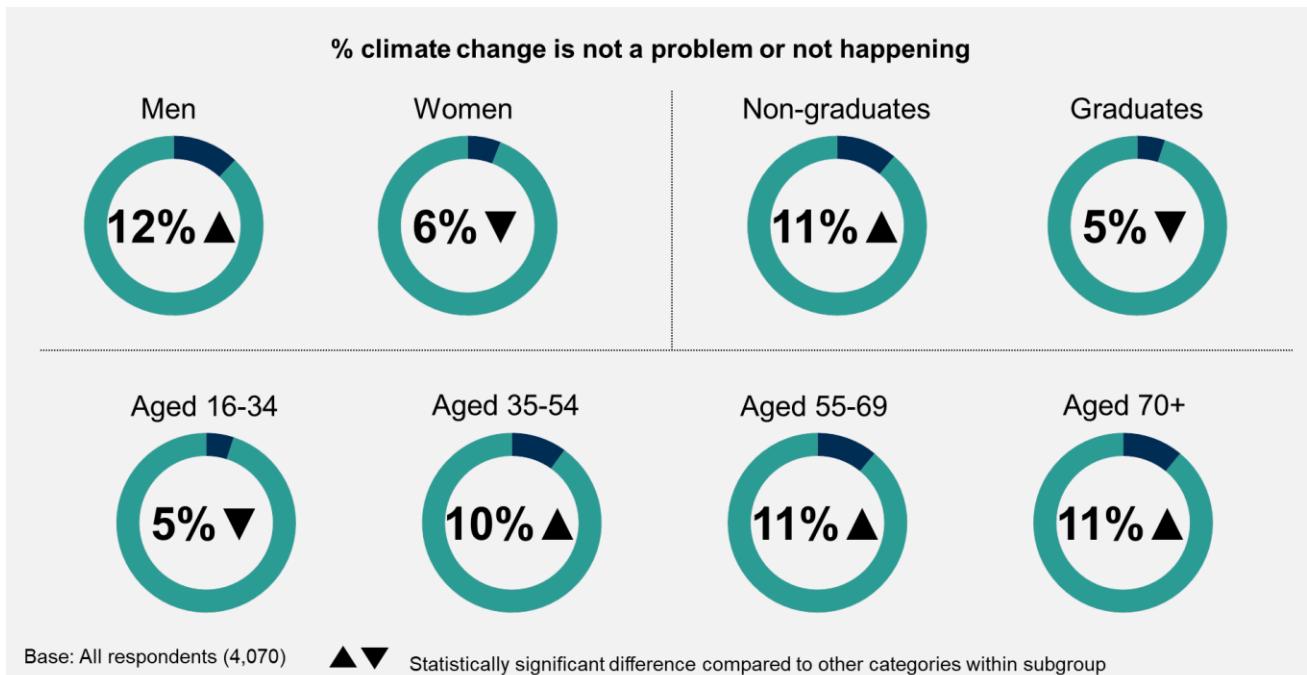
Figure 2.4: Groups more likely to say climate change is an immediate and urgent problem

Q. Which of these statements comes closest to your own view?



The following groups were more likely to say climate change is not a problem or not happening: men compared to women, older people compared to younger people, and non-graduates compared to graduates (Figure 2.5).

Figure 2.5: Groups more likely to say climate change is not a problem or not happening

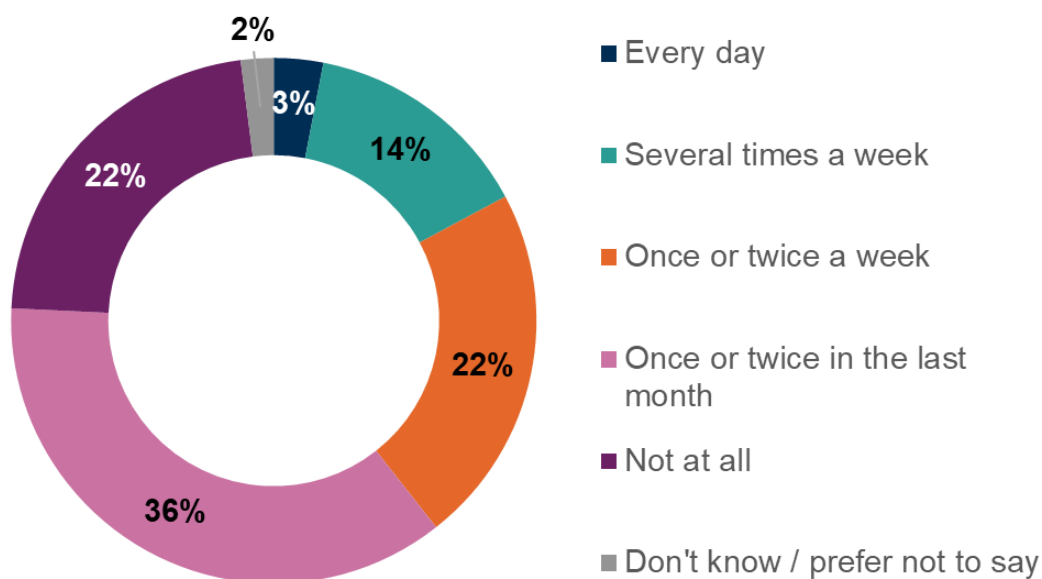


2.3 Speaking to others about climate change

Just under two in five respondents (39%) said they had spoken to others about climate change at least once a week in the last month, while a further 36% said they had done so at least once or twice over the last month. Almost a quarter of respondents (22%) said they had not spoken to others about climate change at all in the last month (Figure 2.6).

Figure 2.6: Speaking to others about climate change

Q. Thinking about the last month, how often would you say you have spoken to people about climate change?

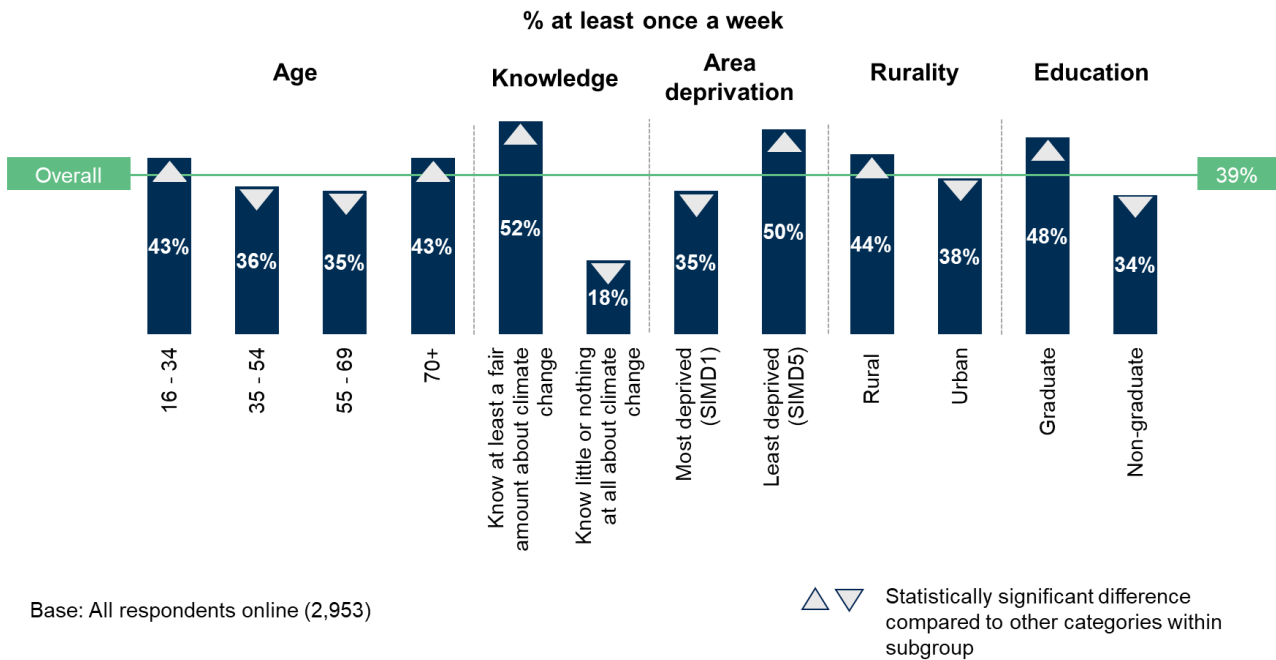


Base: All respondents online (2,953)

Groups that were more likely to say they had spoken to others about climate change at least once a week in the last month were: those aged 16-34 and aged 70 and over compared to other age groups, those living in rural areas compared to those in urban areas, graduates compared to non-graduates, those who report they know at least a fair amount about climate change compared to those who report they know a little or nothing at all, and those living in the least deprived areas compared to those in the most deprived areas (Figure 2.7).

Figure 2.7: Speaking to others about climate change – demographic differences

Q. Thinking about the last month, how often would you say you have spoken to people about climate change?

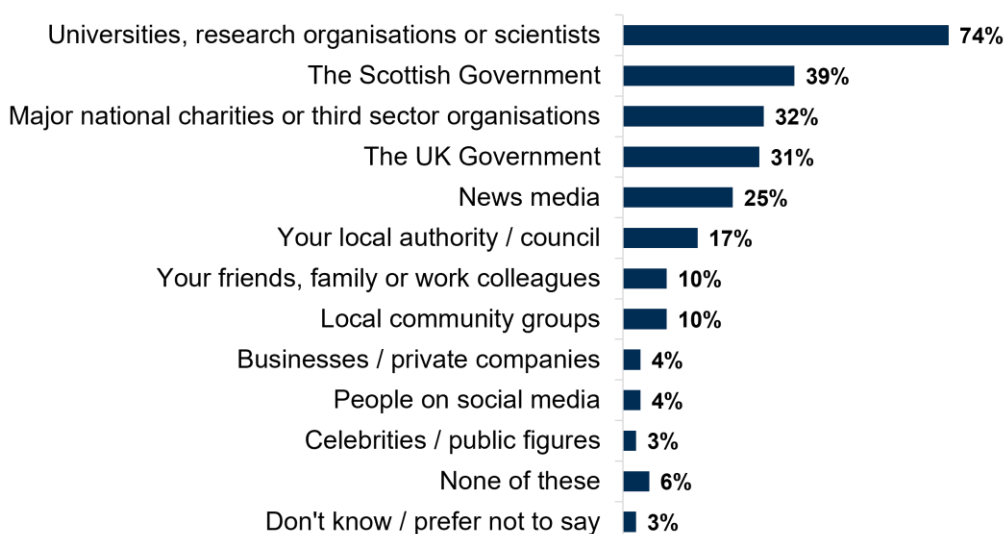


2.4 Sources of information about climate change

By far the most trusted source of information or advice about climate change was universities, research organisations or scientists (74%). The Scottish Government was the second most trusted source (39%), followed by major national charities or third sector organisations (32%), the UK Government (31%) and news media (25%) (Figure 2.8).

Figure 2.8: Trusted sources of information about climate change

Q. Which of the following, if any, would you trust to provide accurate information or advice about climate change?



Base: All respondents (4,075)

The largest differences in trust in information sources were seen by education, age and household income, although there were also some minor differences by gender, location, and disability.



Graduates had higher than average trust in each of the eight top-ranked sources compared to non-graduates: universities, research organisations or scientists (84%, compared to 69%), major national charities or third sector organisations (48%, compared to 24%), the Scottish Government (47%, compared to 36%), the UK Government (40%, compared to 27%), news media (30%, compared to 23%) their local authority (23%, compared to 14%), friends, family or work colleagues (13%, compared to 8%), local community groups (12%, compared to 8%), and businesses (5%, compared to 3%).



Young people aged 16-34 were more likely than their older counterparts aged 35 and over to trust most of these sources. Specifically, young people were more likely to say they trusted the Scottish Government (53%, compared to 35%), major national charities or third sector organisations (47%, compared to 27%), the UK Government (38%, compared to 29%), their local authority (27%, compared to 14%), friends, family or work colleagues (14%, compared to 9%), local community groups (14%, compared to 8%), people on social media (8%, compared to 3%), and celebrities / public figures (5%, compared to 2%).



Respondents with a higher household income of £52,000 and above were more likely than those with a lower household income of less than £26,000 to trust most of these information sources. This included being more likely to trust universities, research organisations or scientists (88%, compared to 67%), the Scottish Government (50%, compared to 37%), major national charities or third sector organisations (45%, compared to 27%), the UK Government (45%, compared to 24%), their local authority (25%, compared to 15%), and businesses (7%, compared to 2%).



Respondents living in an energy hub area were less likely than those who were not to trust either the Scottish Government (32%, compared to 41%) or the UK Government (25%, compared to 32%).

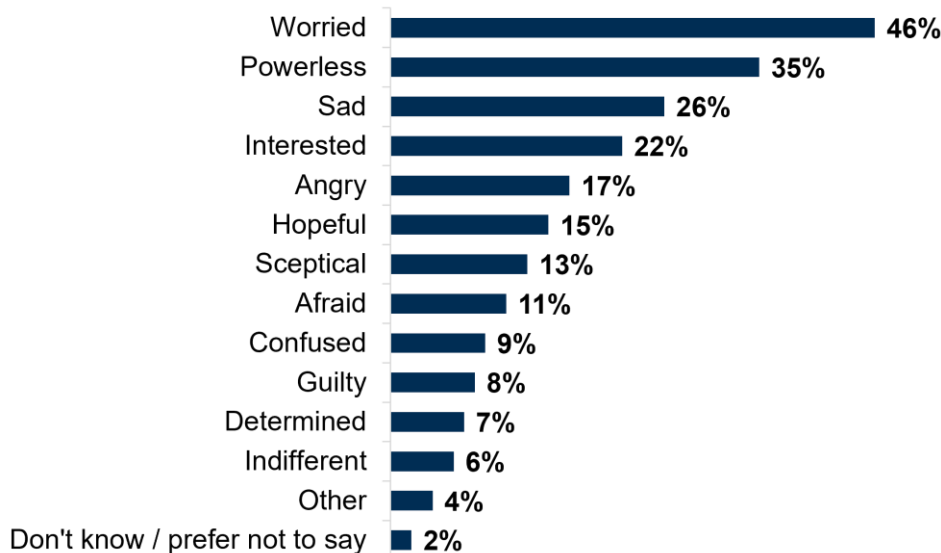
Men and those living in rural areas were more likely than average to say they trusted none of these sources (both 9%, compared to the average of 6%).

2.5 Feelings about climate change

When asked how thinking about climate change made them feel, respondents more commonly selected negative emotions than neutral or positive emotions. ‘Worried’ was the most commonly chosen word (46%) to describe how thinking about climate change made respondents feel. This was followed by ‘powerless’ (35%) and ‘sad’ (26%) (Figure 2.9).

Figure 2.9: Feelings about climate change

Q. When you think about climate change, which of the following words best describe how it makes you feel?



Base: All respondents (4,075)

Feelings about climate change varied by education, household income, and how much respondents felt they knew about climate change, as well as between women and men.



Graduates were more likely than non-graduates to feel 'worried' (56%, compared to 43%), 'powerless' (41%, compared to 32%), 'angry' (20%, compared to 15%), 'afraid' (13%, compared to 10%), 'guilty' (11%, compared to 7%) or 'determined' (9%, compared to 6%). Non-graduates were more likely than graduates to feel 'hopeful' (17%, compared to 13%) or 'sceptical' (15%, compared to 8%).



Respondents with a higher household income of £52,000 and above were more likely than those with a lower household income of less than £26,000 to feel 'worried' (56%, compared to 45%), 'powerless' (40%, compared to 31%), 'angry' (23%, compared to 16%), 'guilty' (12%, compared to 8%), 'determined' (11%, compared to 6%) or 'indifferent' (8%, compared to 4%). Those with a lower household income were more likely to feel 'hopeful' (21%, compared to 11% of those with a higher household income).



Respondents who knew at least a fair amount about climate change were more likely than those who knew a little or nothing at all to say they feel 'worried' (50%, compared to 40%), 'powerless' (39%, compared to 29%), 'angry' (22%, compared to 10%), 'afraid' (13%, compared to 10%) or 'determined' (11%, compared to 2%). Respondents who knew a little or nothing at all about climate change were more likely to feel 'confused' (13%, compared to 5%) or 'indifferent' (10%, compared to 5%).



Women were more likely than men to say they felt 'worried' (52%, compared to 42%), 'sad' (31%, compared to 21%), 'afraid' (14% compared to 9%), 'confused' (11%, compared to 6%), and 'guilty' (11%, compared to 6%). Men were more likely to say they were 'sceptical' (16%, compared to 10% of women) or 'indifferent' (8%, compared to 4%).



Differences by age group are shown in Table 2.1 below. Young people aged 16-34 were more likely than average to say they felt 'powerless', 'angry', 'afraid', 'guilty' or 'indifferent'. Older people aged 55 and over were more likely than average to say they felt 'interested', 'hopeful', 'sceptical' or 'confused'.

Table 2.1: Feelings about climate change by age

Feelings	Aged 16-34	Aged 35-54	Aged 55-69	Aged 70+
Worried	50%	46%	48%	43%
Powerless	43% ▲	35%	29%	31%
Sad	24%	27%	26%	28%
Interested	16%	19%	26% ▲	28% ▲
Angry	23% ▲	16%	14%	14%
Hopeful	11%	11%	17%	26% ▲
Sceptical	8%	13%	15% ▲	16% ▲
Afraid	19% ▲	11%	8%	8%
Confused	8%	7%	10%	11% ▲
Guilty	13% ▲	10%	6%	4%
Determined	9%	7%	6%	4%
Indifferent	8% ▲	7%	4%	3%

▲ statistically significant difference compared to the average.

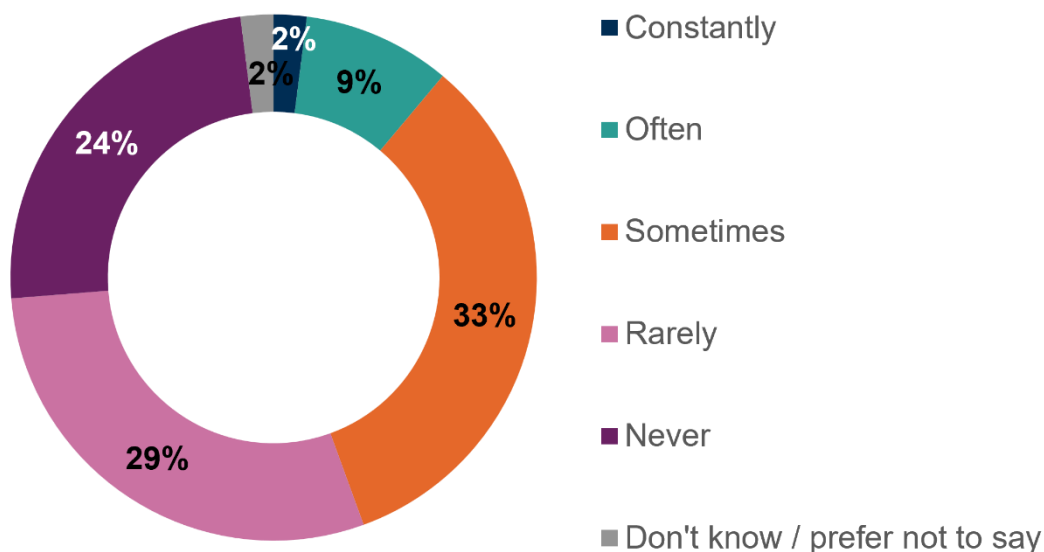
2.6 Feelings about climate change and daily activities

Just under a quarter of respondents (24%) reported that their feelings about climate change never have a negative impact on them as they go about their daily activities. A further 29% said their feelings about climate change rarely had a negative effect on them.

Just over one in ten respondents (11%) reported that their feelings about climate change constantly or often have a negative effect on them as they go about their daily activities. A further third (33%) said their feelings about climate change sometimes had a negative effect on them (Figure 2.10).

Figure 2.10: Frequency of feelings about climate change having a negative impact on daily activities

Q. How often, if at all, do your feelings about climate change have a negative effect on you as you go about your daily activities such as sleeping, concentrating at home / work / study, enjoying your hobbies, or spending time with family / friends?



Base: All respondents (4,058)

Certain groups who may be more vulnerable were more likely to say that their feelings about climate change constantly or often have a negative effect on them: those aged 70 and over compared to younger age groups, those with a household income of less than £26,000 compared to those with a household income of £26,000 or more, and disabled people compared to non-disabled people (Figure 2.11).

Figure 2.11: Groups more likely to say their feelings about climate change constantly or often have a negative effect on them



Those reporting they know at least a fair amount about climate change and those who talk to others about this topic at least once a week were also more likely to say that their feelings about climate change have a negative effect on them constantly or often (12%, compared to 4% of those who know a little or nothing at all, and 18%, compared to 4% of those who talk to others once or twice a month). This suggests that those who are more knowledgeable about climate change and discuss it with others more often are also those whose feelings about climate change are more likely to be having a negative effect on them day-to-day.

3. Experience of severe weather events

This chapter summarises survey findings regarding public experience of severe weather events. It explores the perceived likelihood of experiencing severe weather events within the next five years, and preparedness for these events. It also discusses the impact of having experienced a severe weather event in the last 12 months. The term ‘severe weather event’ was not explicitly defined in the survey, therefore, the responses reflect respondents’ perceptions of the severity of a given weather event.

Key findings

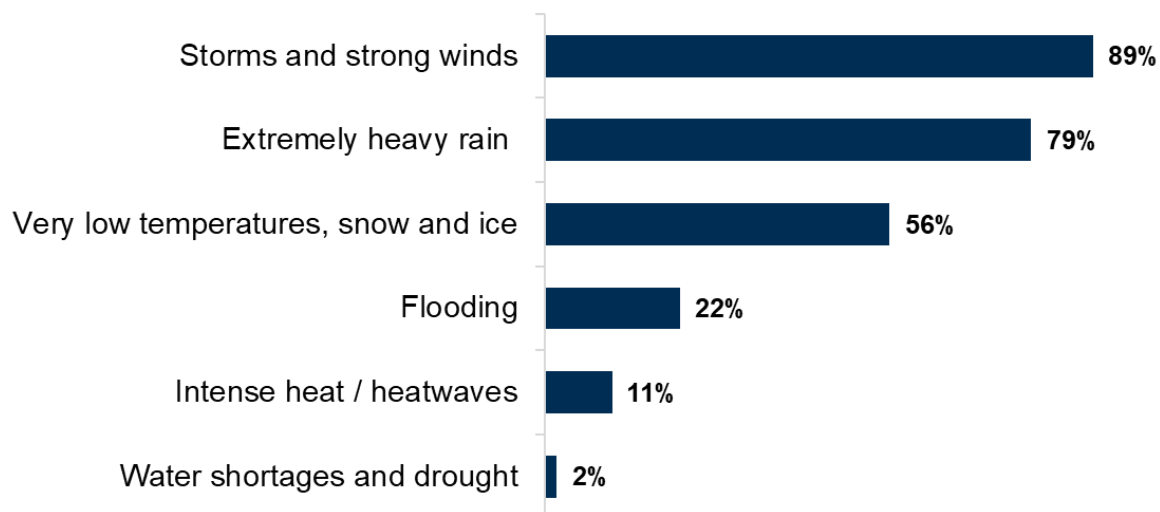
- Most households reported that they had experienced storms and strong winds (89%), extremely heavy rain (79%) or very low temperatures, snow and ice (56%) in the last 12 months.
- Fewer households reported that they had experienced flooding (22%), heatwaves (11%) or drought (2%), or thought they were likely to experience these weather events in the future.
- While most households expected to experience storms and strong winds and extremely heavy rain in future, they were less likely to report that they felt prepared for these events: 94% of households thought they were likely to experience storms and strong winds compared to 59% of households who felt prepared for this; 92% of households thought they were likely to experience extremely heavy rain compared to 64% of households who felt prepared for this.
- Among households that had experienced a severe weather event in the last 12 months, the most commonly reported impacts were: property damage (21%), being unable to socialise with friends or family (21%), being unable to access local outdoor space (20%), and a negative impact on mental health (19%).

3.1 Experience of severe weather events

Most households reported that they had experienced storms and strong winds (89%), extremely heavy rain (79%), and very low temperatures, snow and ice (56%) in the last 12 months. Fewer reported that they had experienced flooding (22%), intense heat/heatwaves (11%) or water shortages and drought (2%) (Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: Experience of severe weather events

Q. Have you experienced any of these types of severe weather events in your local area over the last 12 months?



Base: All households: extremely heavy rain (3,418), flooding (3,359), storms (3,410), intense heat (3,342), water shortages (3,338), very low temperatures (3,361)

3.2 Likelihood of experiencing severe weather events

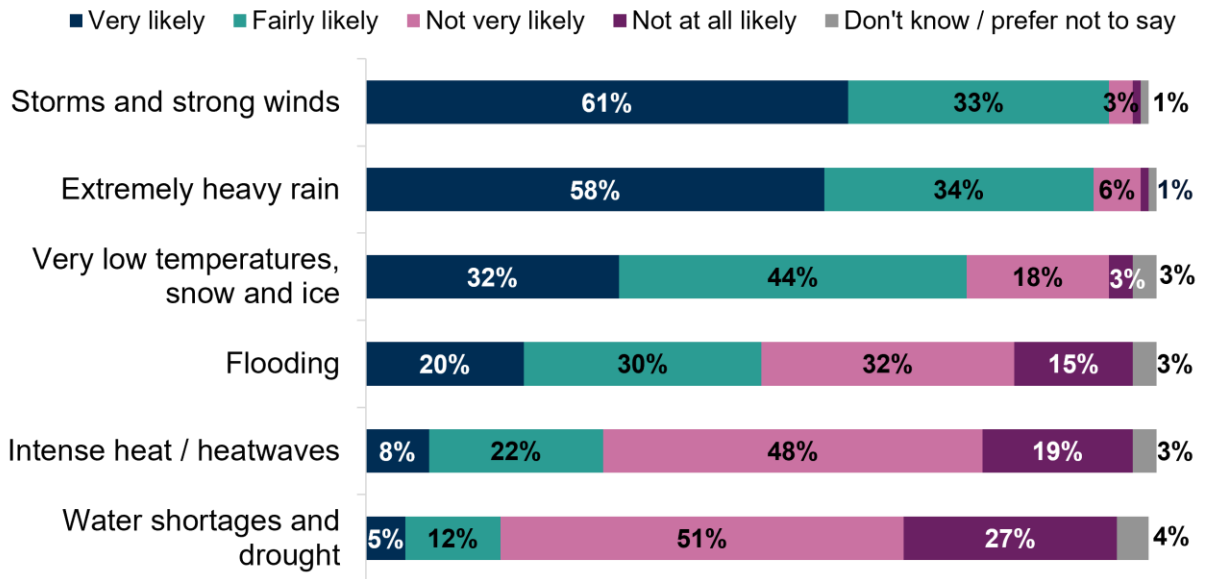
An overwhelming majority of households felt they were very or fairly likely to experience storms and strong winds (94%) or extremely heavy rain (92%) where they live within the next five years. Three quarters felt they were likely to experience very low temperatures, snow and ice (76%) and half thought they would experience flooding (50%).

While heatwaves and drought conditions are predicted to happen more frequently in Scotland in the future², fewer households thought they were likely to experience heatwaves (30%) or drought conditions (18%) than other severe weather events, as shown in Figure 3.2.

² As noted in the [Evidence for the third UK Climate Change Risk Assessment \(CCRA3\) Summary for Scotland](#), which assesses risks and opportunities from climate change to Scotland.

Figure 3.2: Likelihood of experiencing severe weather events

Q. Thinking about where you currently live, how likely, if at all, do you think you are to experience each of the following severe weather events in the next five years?



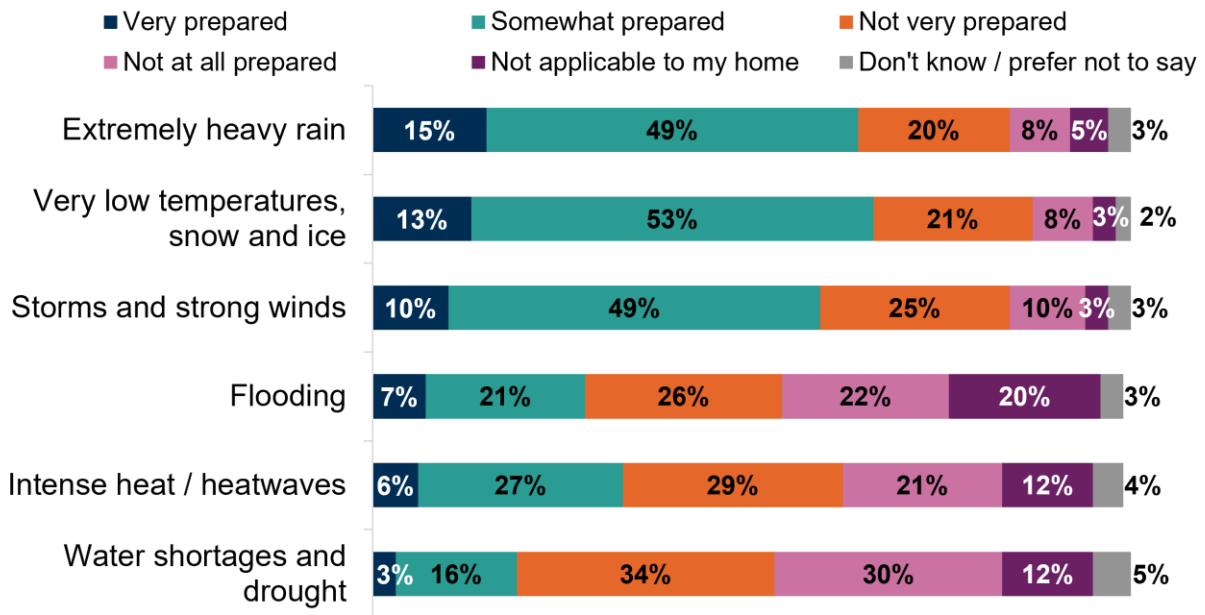
Base: All households; extremely heavy rain (3,405), flooding (3,340), storms (3,404), intense heat (3,329), water shortages (3,331), very low temperatures (3,363)

3.3 Preparedness for severe weather events

Around two-thirds of households said they were very or somewhat prepared for very low temperatures, snow and ice (66%) or for extremely heavy rain (64%), with more than half (59%) also reporting they were at least somewhat prepared for storms and strong winds. Fewer households said they were at least somewhat prepared for intense heat/heatwaves (33%), flooding (28%), or water shortages and drought (19%) (Figure 3.3).

Figure 3.3: Preparedness for severe weather events

Q. Currently how prepared, if at all, would you say you and your home are to cope with each of the following in the next five years?



Base: All households; extremely heavy rain (3,409), flooding (3,379), storms (3,393), intense heat (3,347), water shortages (3,371), very low temperatures (3,390)

For each weather event, households that thought they were likely to experience it were more likely to say they felt prepared compared to households that did not think they were likely to experience it (Table 3.1).

There was a gap between how likely households thought they were to experience storms and strong winds, extremely heavy rain, very low temperatures snow and ice, and flooding, and how prepared they felt for these events (Table 3.2). This gap between likelihood and preparedness was particularly large for storms and strong winds (a 35-point gap), extremely heavy rain (a 28-point gap) and flooding (a 21-point gap). Water shortages and drought was the only severe weather event that respondents were more likely to say they were prepared for than that they thought they were likely to experience it.

Table 3.1: Preparedness for severe weather events compared to perceived likelihood of experiencing these

Weather event	Base*	Likely to experience	Not likely to experience
Prepared for extremely heavy rain	2,147	66%	49%
Prepared for flooding	957	35%	22%
Prepared for storms and strong winds	1,976	61%	38%
Prepared for intense heat/heatwaves	1,097	44%	29%
Prepared for water shortages and drought	639	27%	18%
Prepared for very low temperatures, snow and ice	2,203	70%	57%

* Base: All households who felt prepared for each weather event

There was also a gap between whether households reported they had experienced extremely heavy rain, and storms and strong winds and how prepared they felt for these: extremely heavy rain (15-point gap) and storms and strong winds (30-point gap). For flooding, intense heat/heatwaves, water shortages and drought, and very low temperatures, snow and inc, more households felt they were prepared for these events than had experienced them (Table 3.2).

Table 3.2: Preparedness for severe weather events compared to experience and perceived likelihood of experiencing such events in future

Weather event	Prepared for	Have experienced	Likely to experience
Extremely heavy rain	64%	79%	92%
Flooding	29%	22%	50%
Storms and strong winds	59%	89%	94%
Intense heat/heatwaves	33%	11%	30%
Water shortages and drought	19%	2%	18%
Very low temperatures, snow and ice	66%	56%	76%

Base: All households who felt they were prepared for each weather event.

3.4 Demographic differences relating to expectation of and preparedness for severe weather events

Differences were apparent between urban and rural households and between households with higher and lower incomes in regard to their expectation of and preparedness for severe weather events.



Households in urban areas were less likely to say they had experienced most types of severe weather event over the last 12 months than their rural counterparts were, although they were more likely to report having experienced intense heat and/or heatwaves (12%, compared to 6%). Urban households were more likely than rural households to expect they would experience intense heat and/or heat waves in the next five years (31%, compared to 26% of rural households), but also more likely to say that they and their home were not prepared for them (51%, compared to 46% of rural households).



Households in a flood risk area were no more likely to have reported that they had experienced flooding within the last 12 months than those who do not live in a flood risk area were. They were also just as likely to anticipate flooding in the next five years and to feel prepared for this.



Renters were less likely than owner occupiers to feel prepared for certain weather events: extremely heavy rain (33% felt they were not prepared, compared to 26% of owner occupiers), storms and strong winds (42% felt they were not prepared, compared to 31%), and very low temperatures, snow and ice (38% felt they were not prepared, compared to 24%). There were no significant differences in preparedness for flooding, intense heat/heatwaves or water shortages and drought.

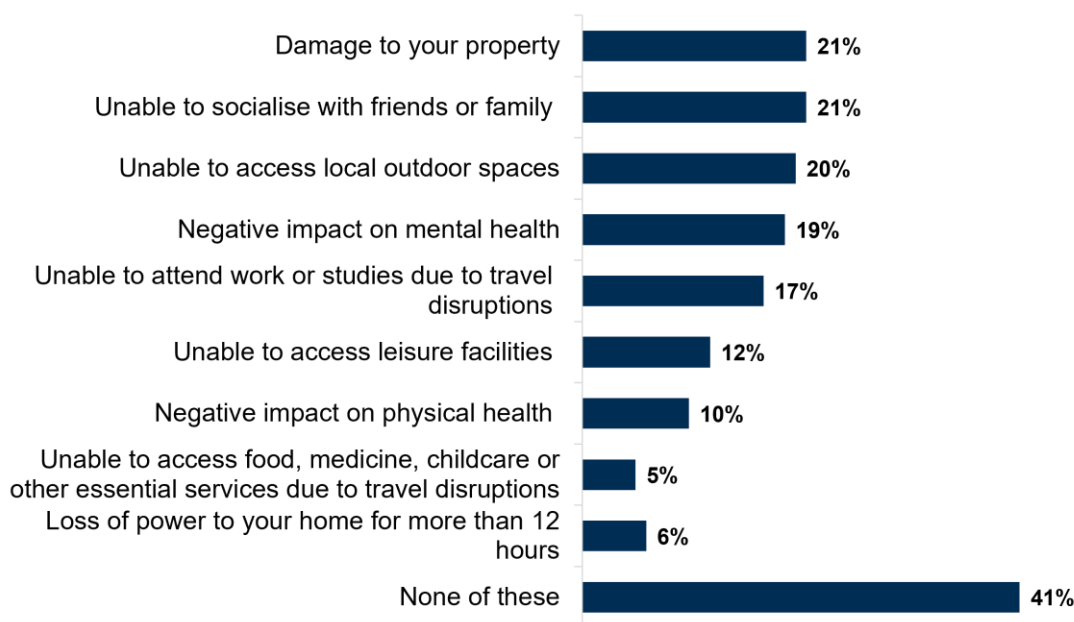
3.5 Impact of severe weather events

Among households that reported that they had experienced a severe weather event in the last 12 months, around one in five reported experiencing damage to their property (21%). A similar number reported being unable to socialise with friends or family (21%), being unable to access local outdoor space (20%), experiencing a negative impact on their mental health (19%) or being unable to get to work or studies due to travel disruption (17%) (respondents could choose more than one answer option).

Few households reported that they had been unable to access leisure facilities (12%) or had experienced a negative impact on their physical health (10%). Only a small number had been unable to access food, medicine, childcare or other essential services due to travel disruption (5%), or had experienced a loss of power for more than 12 hours (6%). Two-fifths (41%) said they had experienced none of the above mentioned impacts (Figure 3.4).

Figure 3.4: Impact of severe weather events

Q. Which, if any, of the following have you experienced as a result of these severe weather events in the last 12 months?



Base: All households that experienced a severe weather event in the last 12 months (3,218)

Among those households that had experienced a severe weather event in the last 12 months, there were some variations in experiences by household income, by housing tenure and for rural and urban households.



Households with a lower income of under £26,000 were more likely to report a negative impact on mental health (25%, compared to 17% of households with an income of £52,000 or above), a negative impact on physical health (14%, compared to 7%), and being unable to access food, medicine, childcare or other essential services due to travel disruptions (8%, compared to 3%).



Rural households were more likely than urban households to report property damage (24%, compared to 20%), a loss of power for more than 12 hours (18%, compared to 3%), and being unable to access food, medicine, childcare or other essential services due to travel disruptions (9%, compared to 5%).



Urban households were more likely than rural households to report experiencing a negative impact on mental health (20%, compared to 15%) and a negative impact on physical health (11%, compared to 7%).



Renters were more likely than owner occupiers to report being unable to socialise with friends or family (24%, compared to 18%), a negative impact on mental health (28%, compared to 15%), being unable to attend work or studies (19%, compared to 15%), a negative impact on physical health (17%, compared to 7%), and being unable to access essential services (9%, compared to 3%). Owner occupiers were more likely than renters to report property damage (24%, compared to 15% of renters).

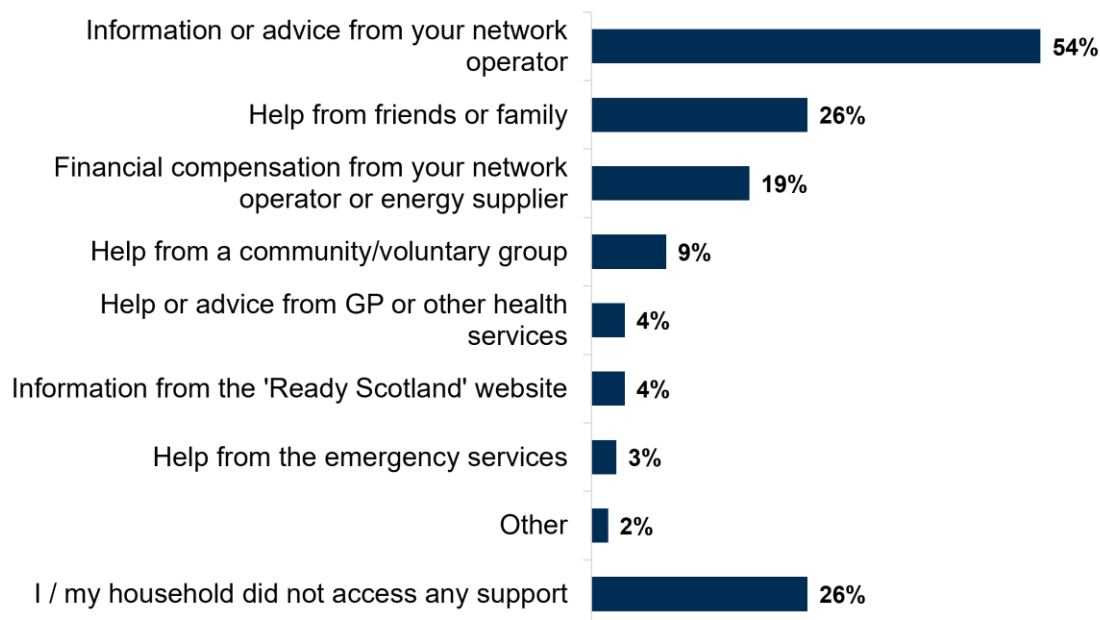
3.6 Loss of power

Looking at support that had been accessed by households that had experienced a loss of power for more than 12 hours due to severe weather, more than half said they had received information or advice from their network operator (54%). More than a quarter said they had received help from friends or family (26%), while just over a fifth said they had received financial compensation from their network operator or energy supplier (19%) (respondents could choose more than one answer option).

Few households reported they had had help from a community or voluntary group (9%), their GP or other health services (4%), the emergency services (3%) or had accessed information from the 'Ready Scotland' website (4%). Just over a quarter of households (26%) said they had not accessed any support (Figure 3.5).

Figure 3.5: Support during a loss of power

Q. Which, if any, of the following forms of support did you or your household access when you most recently experienced a loss of power due to severe weather?



Base: All households that experienced a loss of power due to severe weather (240)

Among households that had experienced some form of support, almost two thirds (64%) felt they were able to access all the support they needed. Just over a fifth (23%) felt they had needed more support than they received.

Among households that had not received support, most (72%) felt they had not needed any support. One in eight (11%) said they had needed support but weren't aware of any being available.

4. Climate change adaptation actions

This chapter looks at public attitudes towards climate change adaptation. It includes an overview of adaptation actions that have been most commonly taken as well as the intention to take action in the future. It then provides insight into the reasons that may be stopping people in Scotland from taking action to adapt to climate change.

Key findings

- The level of uptake of adaptation actions was relatively low overall, and particularly low for flood resilience measures, which had been installed by just three per cent of households. The most commonly reported adaptation actions were: keeping blinds or curtains closed during warm weather (47%); actions to reduce the likelihood of wildfires when in the outdoors (29%); and signing up to receive severe weather warnings or flood alerts (27%).
- The most common reasons that respondents gave for not taking action to adapt to climate change were: limited knowledge about what to do and how to do it (36%); the perceived cost of adaptation actions (33%); and not seeing such actions as necessary for them or their homes (32%).

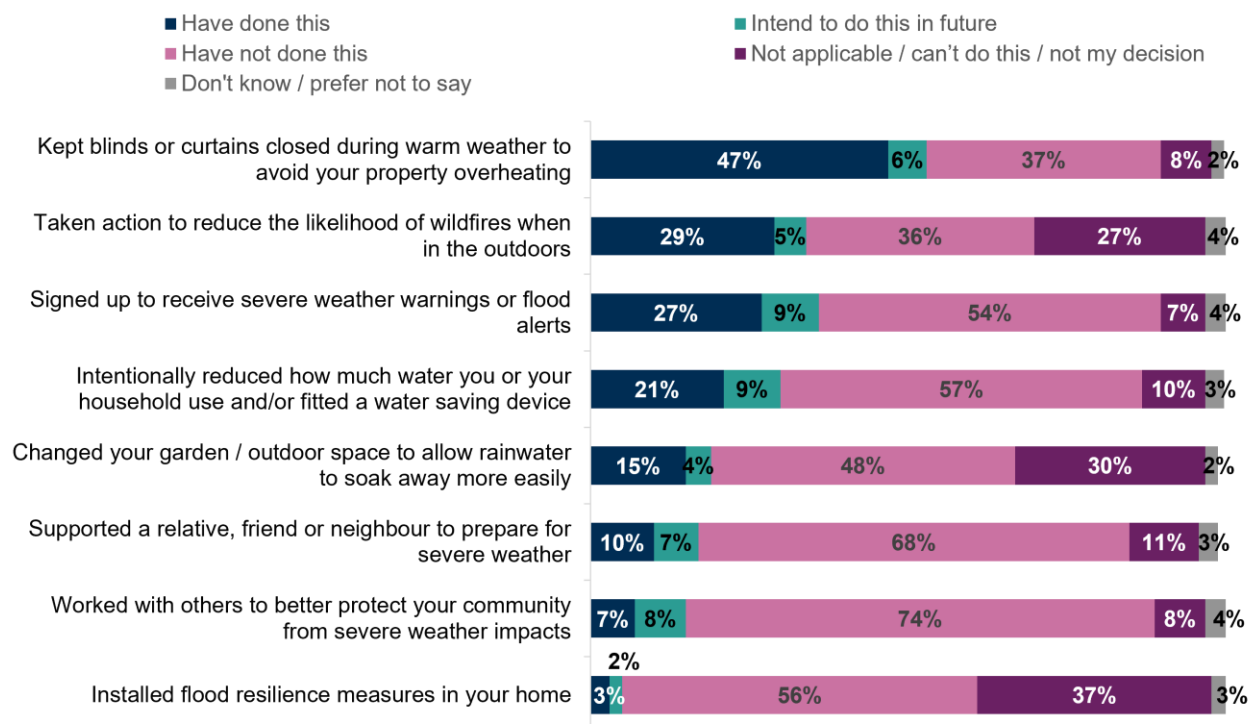
4.1 Taking adaptation action

Respondents were asked which, if any, of a set of actions related to weather and climate they had taken. More than seven in ten (72%) reported they had taken at least one of these actions.

As shown in Figure 4.1, the most common action was keeping blinds or curtains closed during warm weather, with almost half of respondents (47%) reporting they had done this. The next most common adaptation actions were action to reduce the likelihood of wildfires when in the outdoors (29%), signing up to receive severe weather warnings or flood alerts (27%), and intentionally reducing how much water they or their household use and/or fitting a water saving device (21%). Fewer reported that they had changed their garden or outdoor space to allow rainwater to soak away more easily (15%), supported a relative, friend or neighbour to prepare for severe weather (10%) or worked with others to better protect their community from severe weather impacts (7%).

Figure 4.1: Actions to adapt to weather and climate

Q. Which, if any, of the following actions have you taken?



Base: All respondents – Kept blinds or curtains closed (4,038), Taken action to reduce likelihood of wildfire (4,025), Signed up to receive weather warnings (4,022), Intentionally reduced water use (4,020), Supported a relative, friend or neighbour (4,016), Worked with others (4,014).

Base: All households – Changed garden / outdoor space (3,412), Installed flood resilience measures (3,418)

Just three per cent of households said they had installed flood resilience measures in their home (e.g. flood doors, air bricks, or tiled floors and raised electrics so if water does enter it causes as little damage as possible).

There was a small difference in the uptake of flood resilience measures between respondents who reported having experienced flooding and those who have not, with those who had experienced flooding being slightly more likely to report having installed such measures (5%, compared to 2% of those who have not experienced flooding). This low uptake of flood resilience measures is consistent with [previous research](#)³ conducted by Ipsos for ClimateXChange, which found that installing flood resilience measures was among the adaptation actions respondents were least likely to take in future.

Generally, there was little variation across subgroups on past action or future intention in relation to installing flood resilience measures, including no notable differences between homeowners and tenants or between those living in a flood risk area and those not.

³ Millar, C. Mulholand, C. Comer, A. 2022: <https://www.climateexchange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/cxc-public-awareness-of-climate-risks-and-opportunities-in-scotland-january-2022.pdf>



Respondents who reported knowing at least a fair amount about climate change were more likely than those who only knew a little or nothing at all to report having taken action across a range of adaptation measures. These included signing up for severe weather alerts (32%, compared to 25%), changing their garden or outdoor space to allow for better drainage (17%, compared to 15%), intentionally reducing how much water they use and/or fitting a water saving device (24%, compared to 19%), working with others to better protect their community from severe weather impacts (10%, compared to 3%) and taking action to reduce the likelihood of wildfires (36%, compared to 21%).



Older respondents aged 70 and over were generally less likely than all other respondents to have taken adaptation actions, including taking action to reduce the likelihood of fires (24%, compared to 29% overall), signing up to receive severe weather warnings or flood alerts (15%, compared to 27% overall) and supporting a relative, friend or neighbour to prepare for severe weather (3%, compared to 10% overall).

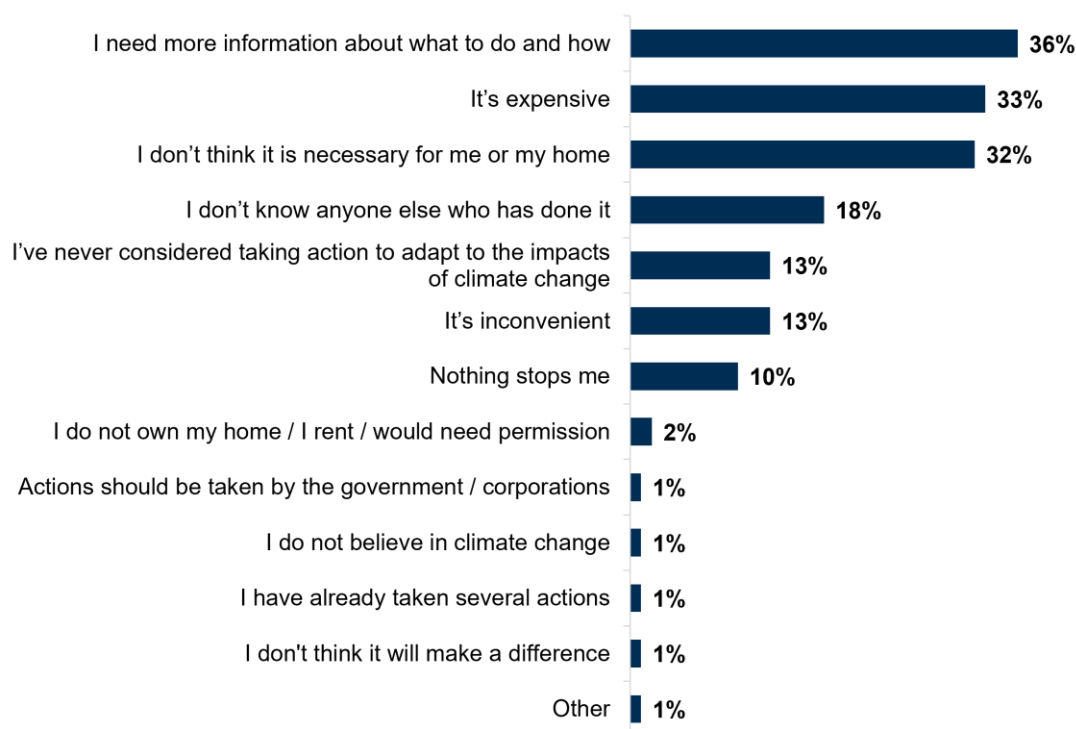
Across all of the adaptation actions listed, only a small proportion (ranging between 3% and 9%) of respondents who were not already taking each action said they intended to do so in the future. Future intention to take adaptation action was typically higher among young people aged 16-34 and lower among older people aged 55 and over. For example, those aged 16-34 were more likely to report future intention to work with others to better protect their community from severe weather impacts (14%, compared to 8% overall), to reduce how much water they use (15%, compared to 9% overall) and to sign up for severe weather alerts (14%, compared to 9% overall).

4.2 Reasons for not taking action

When asked about the reasons preventing them from taking action to adapt to the impacts of climate change, respondents most frequently mentioned needing more information about what to do and how (36%) (Figure 4.2). A third (33%) also reported that the costs of taking action were a barrier or that they did not think that taking adaptation measures was necessary for them or their home (32%). Almost one in five (18%) cited not knowing anyone else who has done it as one of the reasons stopping them from action. Equal proportions (13%) of respondents said that they have never considered taking action to adapt to the impacts of climate change and that it is inconvenient (e.g. disruptive, time-consuming) to do so.

Figure 4.2: Reasons for not taking action to adapt to climate change

Q. What, if anything, stops you from taking action to adapt to the impacts of climate change?



Base: All respondents (4,061)

Minority ethnic respondents (55%), graduates (45%), those on higher incomes (44%), those who thought climate change was an immediate problem (43%) and women (41%) were all more likely than average (36%) to say that they needed more information about how to take action. There were no notable differences between the reasons given by respondents from more and less deprived areas of Scotland.



Young people aged 16-34 were more likely to mention cost (47%) and insufficient information about what to do and how (45%) as barriers to taking action than those aged 35 and over were (28% and 34%, respectively). Higher than average proportions of young people also tended to say that adaptation action is inconvenient (25%, compared to 13% overall) and that they do not know anyone else who has taken action (26%, compared to 18% overall).



Those who were finding it difficult to afford their energy bills were also more likely to mention the cost of taking adaptation actions as a barrier (43%, compared to 30% of respondents who were finding it easy to afford their energy bills). However, higher income households earning £52,000 and above were also more likely than average to cite cost as an issue (37%, compared to 33% overall).



Respondents who reported having experienced flooding in the past were more likely than those who have not experienced it to say that they need more information about what actions to take and how (43%, compared to 35%) and that the cost of taking adaptation action was a barrier for them (41%, compared to 31%). On the other hand, those who have not experienced flooding were more likely than those who have to think that taking adaptation action was not necessary for them (36%, compared to 24% of those who experienced flooding).

Certain groups were more likely than average (32%) to think that taking adaptation action was not necessary for them or their home: those who did not consider climate change to be a problem (54%), people aged 70 and over (43%), those on higher incomes (38%), homeowners (37%), men (37%), those living in the less deprived areas of Scotland (SIMD 3, 4 or 5) (35%) and White respondents (34%).

5. Mitigation behaviours

This chapter presents the findings on attitudes towards climate change mitigation. It explores public perceptions of which actions aimed at reducing individual contributions to climate change are the most effective, and how often, if at all, respondents consider the environmental impact of their day-to-day activities.

Key findings

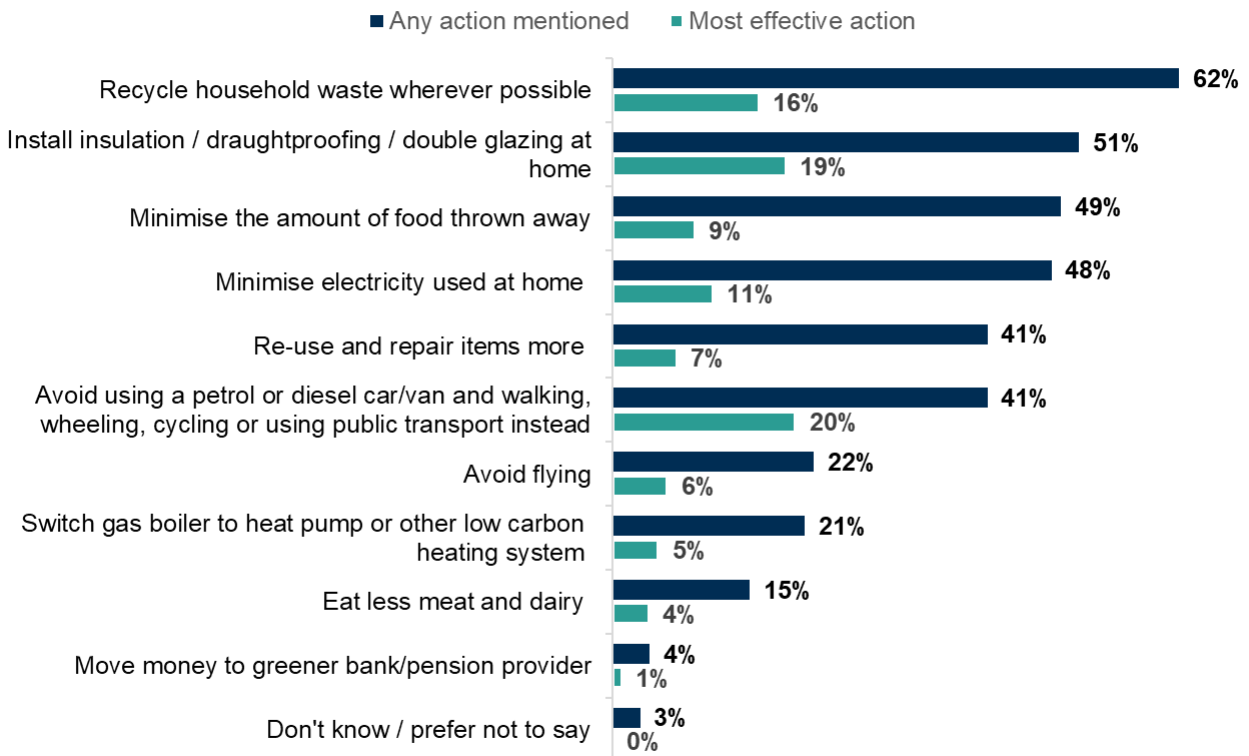
- Recycling was most commonly mentioned as among the four most effective actions for mitigating climate change, with over six in ten respondents (62%) selecting this. Next most mentioned were home energy efficiency measures (51%), minimising food waste (49%) and reducing use of electricity at home (48%).
- Two thirds of respondents (66%) reported they think about the environmental impact of their daily actions at least sometimes, while a third (32%) said they rarely or never think about this.

5.1 Most effective actions for mitigating climate change

Respondents were asked to select the top four actions they believed to be most effective at reducing individual contribution to climate change from a longlist of actions. As shown in Figure 5.1, recycling was most commonly mentioned as one of the four most effective actions, cited by two-thirds (62%) of respondents. This was followed by home energy efficiency measures, with 51% selecting the installation of insulation, draughtproofing, or double glazing at home as one of the four most effective actions. Minimising food waste and reducing electricity use at home were each selected by 49% and 48% of respondents respectively.

Figure 5.1: Perceived effectiveness of climate change mitigation actions

Q. Which of the following do you think are the most effective actions someone living in Scotland could take to reduce their contribution to climate change?



Base: All respondents; Any action mentioned (3,917), Most effective action (3,595)

Around four in ten respondents thought that re-using and repairing items more, or avoiding using a petrol or diesel car or van and walking, wheeling, cycling or using public transport instead, were among the four most effective actions (41% and 41% respectively). Fewer respondents thought that avoiding flying (22%), switching a gas boiler to a low carbon heating system (21%), eating less meat and dairy (15%) or moving money to a greener bank or pension provider (4%) were among the most effective actions.

Although the majority of respondents (62%) felt recycling to be effective in combating climate change, those aged 70 and over (79%) were more likely to perceive this action as one of the four most effective than other age groups. Older people were also more likely than average to consider avoiding food waste and minimising the use of electricity as among the four most effective actions.

While eating less meat and dairy was among the actions least likely to be perceived as one of the most effective, graduates, young people aged 16-34 and those who knew at least a fair amount about climate change were all more likely than average to say this action was one of the four most effective (23%, 23% and 20% respectively). Graduates (45%), young people aged 16-34 (47%) and respondents living in urban (42%) and least deprived areas (46%) were also more likely than average to consider avoiding the use of petrol or diesel cars and using active travel options instead to be among the four most effective actions for mitigating climate change.

Switching to a low carbon heating system was more commonly perceived as effective among people living in remote rural (28%) and less deprived areas (SIMD 4 and 5) (24%), those on higher incomes (27%), graduates (26%), men (24%) and respondents who knew at least a fair amount about climate change (23%). The same groups were also more likely than average to perceive avoiding flying as one of the four most effective mitigation actions.

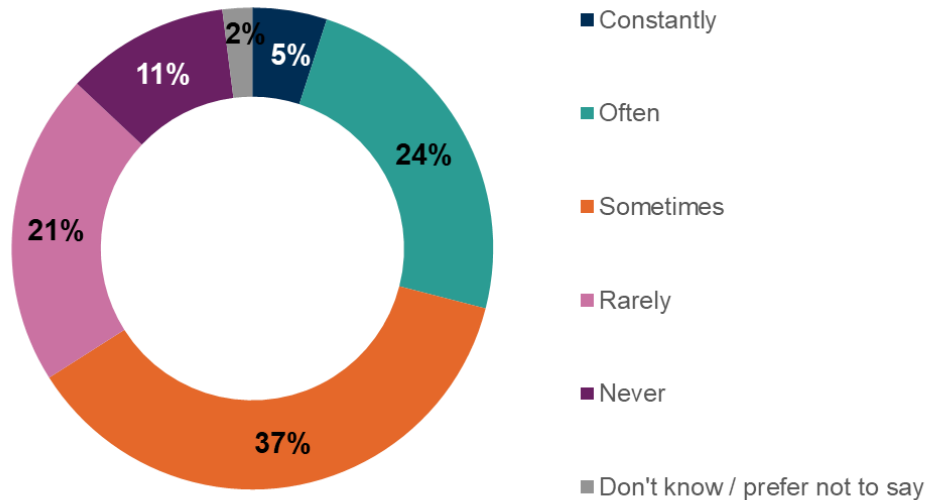
Respondents were also asked to rank the four actions they selected in the order of their perceived effectiveness. The following actions were most frequently ranked by respondents as the most effective action: active travel rather than using a petrol or diesel car or van (20%), installing insulation, draughtproofing or double glazing at home (19%), and recycling (16%). Recycling was also cited most frequently as both the second and third most effective action, which underlines that a majority of respondents perceive it as a highly effective climate change mitigation action.

5.2 Consideration of the environmental impact of day-to-day activities

To measure reflective motivation, respondents were asked how often, if at all, on a typical day they think about the environmental impact of their daily activities (Figure 5.2). Over a third of respondents (37%) said they did so sometimes, with a further 29% saying they thought about this constantly or often. Around one in 10 (11%) said they never thought about the environmental impact of their daily activities.

Figure 5.2: Frequency of thinking about the environmental impact of day-to-day activities

Q. On a typical day, how often, if at all, do you think about the environmental impact of your daily activities?



Base: All respondents online (2,953)

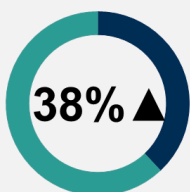
Respondents who knew at least a fair amount about climate change were much more likely to say they think about the environmental impact of their daily activities constantly or often compared to those who reported lower levels of knowledge on the topic. Women were more likely than men to say they think about the environmental impact of their daily activities either constantly or often (Figure 5.3).

Figure 5.3: Subgroup differences on the frequency of thinking about the environmental impact of day-to-day activities

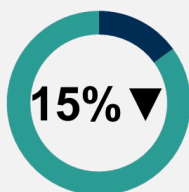
Q. On a typical day, how often, if at all, do you think about the environmental impact of your daily activities?

% constantly or always

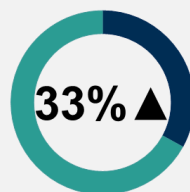
Know at least a fair amount about climate change



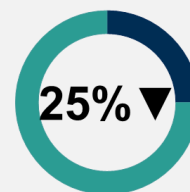
Know little to nothing about climate change



Women



Men



Base: All respondents online (2,953)

▲ ▼ Statistically significant difference compared to other categories within a subgroup

Graduates (39%), young people aged 16-34 (34%) and respondents living in the least deprived areas (SIMD 5) (34%) were also more likely to say they thought about this topic constantly or often.

6. Transport

This chapter looks at participation in active travel and use of car sharing services. It also covers willingness to be involved in local decision making about transport and what perceived barriers there are to doing so.

Key findings

- Just under two thirds of vehicle owners (65%) participated in active travel, by choosing to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle at least some of the time. However, most respondents (63%) believed it was not common for people they knew to choose to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle.
- A large majority agreed that participating in active travel improved their physical and mental health (88% and 80% respectively).
- The use of transport sharing services was less common, with 33% saying they car shared with others from outside their household often or sometimes, and 14% that they used a formal transport sharing service.
- Under a quarter of respondents (23%) had been involved in decisions about transport in their local area in the past 12 months, most commonly by responding to an online public consultation or by contributing to a discussion online or on social media.
- Almost one in five (18%) said they would be willing to give up some of their time to be involved in decision making about transport locally. However, higher proportions felt that they were happy for others to make these decisions (43%) or that while they would like to have a say, spending time on this was not a priority for them (27%).

6.1 Active travel

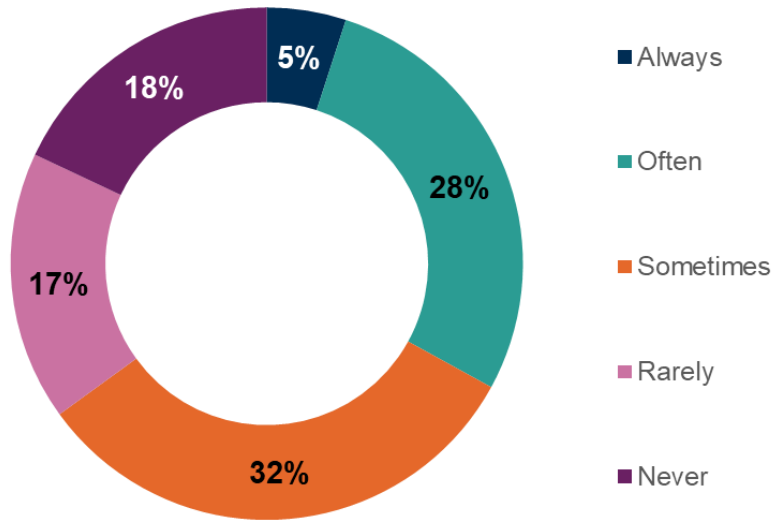
Participation in active travel

The majority of respondents (72%) said they either owned, leased or had continuous use of a car or light van.

To understand how often vehicle owners prioritised active travel over using their car, these respondents were asked how often they chose to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle to make journeys instead. As shown in Figure 6.1, almost two thirds (65%) said they did this at least sometimes, including a third (32%) who said they often or always did this. Seventeen per cent of vehicle owners reported they rarely chose to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle instead, while a further 18% said they never do this.

Figure 6.1: Likelihood of active travel

Q. How often, if ever do you choose to leave your car at home and walk, wheel or cycle to make journeys instead?

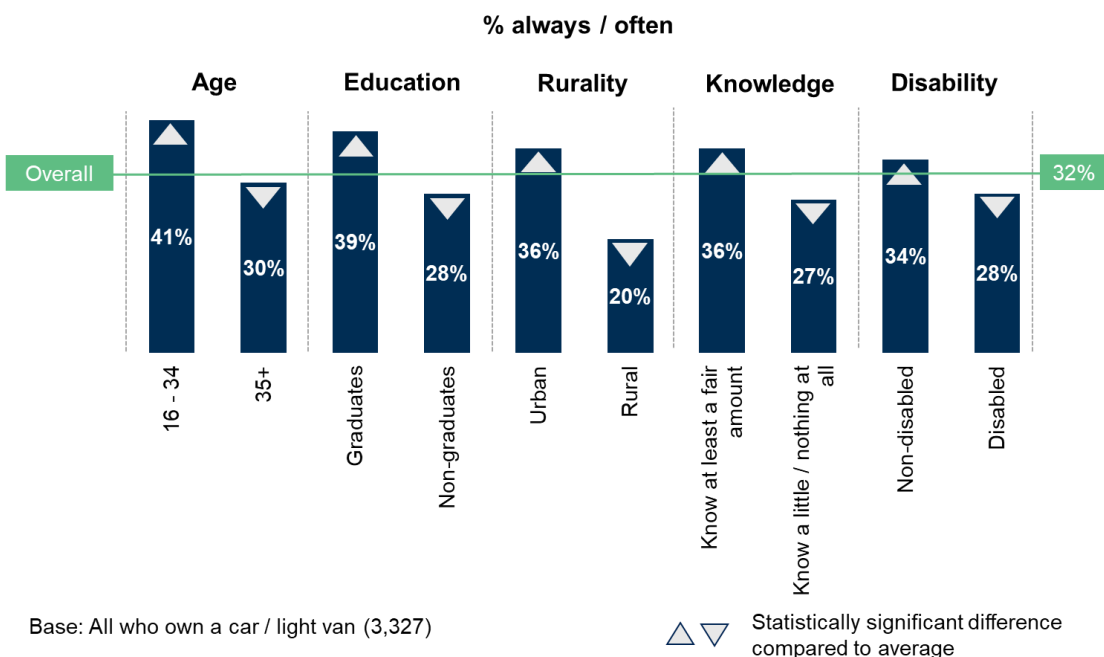


Base: All who own a car or light van (3,327)

Those most likely than average to say they often or always chose to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle instead included young people, graduates, those living in urban areas, those who know at least a fair amount about climate change and respondents without a disability (Figure 6.2).

Figure 6.2: Groups most likely to active travel

Q. How often, if ever do you choose to leave your car at home and walk, wheel or cycle to make journeys instead?



Men were among those more likely to report they rarely or never chose to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle instead (38%, compared to 32% of women).

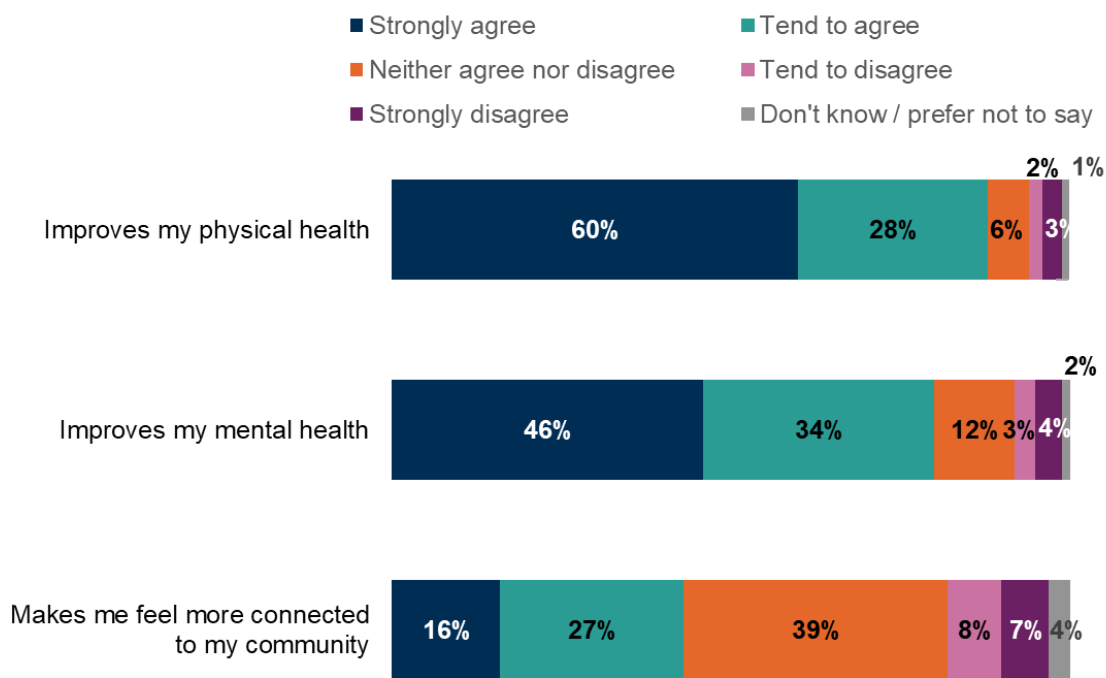
Perceived benefits of active travel

Among those who chose to leave their car at home and walk, wheel or cycle at least some of the time⁴, a large majority agreed this helped to improve their physical and mental health (88% and 80% respectively) (Figure 6.3).

Views were more divided on whether participation in active travel made respondents feel more connected to their community. While 42% agreed this was the case, 39% neither agreed nor disagreed, and 15% disagreed.

Figure 6.3: Benefits of active travel

Q. *Walking, wheeling or cycling rather than using the car...*



Base: All respondents who walk, wheel or cycle at least some of the time; improves physical health (2,713), improves mental health (2,693), feel more connected to my community (2,689)

⁴ Among all vehicle owners, 71% said active travel helped improve their physical health, 64% said it improved their physical health, and 34% said it made them feel more connected to their community.

Young people were more likely than older respondents to say that active travel improved their physical health (93% of those aged 16-34, compared to 86% of those aged 55 and over), and their mental health (87%, compared to 76% of those aged 55 and over).

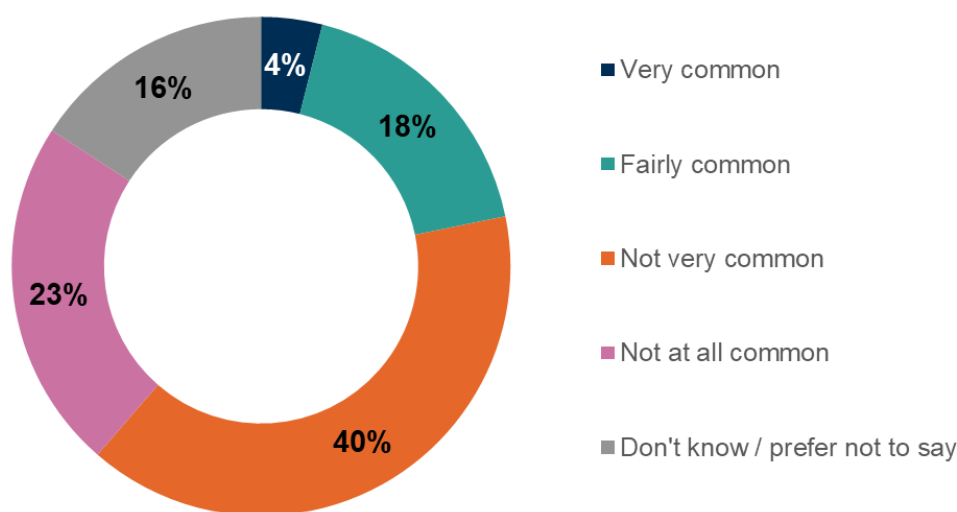
Disabled respondents⁵ were less likely than respondents without a disability to say that walking, wheeling or cycling improved their health – 82% said it improved their physical health (compared to 90% of those without a disability) and 75% said it improved their mental health (compared to 82%).

Perceptions of how often others choose active travel

To understand their perceptions of others' likelihood to choose active travel options, respondents were asked how common it was for people they know who owned or leased a car to choose to leave the car at home and walk, wheel or cycle to make journeys instead. Most (63%) said this was not common among people they knew, while one in five (21%) said it was very or fairly common. Sixteen per cent said they did not know (Figure 6.4).

Figure 6.4: Perceived likelihood of active travel among others

Q. How common is it for [people you know who own or lease a car] to choose to leave the car at home and walk, wheel or cycle to make journeys instead?



Base: All respondents online (2,953)

Those who said it was common for people they know to leave the car at home and choose active travel instead were almost twice as likely also to say that they did this themselves, compared with those who said it was uncommon. Among those who said they always or often left their car at home and chose to walk, wheel or cycle

⁵ Respondents with a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting, or expected to last, 12 months or more.

instead, half (50%) said it was common for people they knew to do this, while 28% said it was not common. Conversely, among those who rarely or never chose to active travel, 40% said active travel was uncommon among people they knew, compared to 17% who said it was common.

Young people aged 16-34, graduates and those in urban areas were more likely than average to say it was common for people they knew to choose active travel over using their car (29%, 25% and 23% respectively, compared to 21% overall). Those who talked to other people about climate change on at least a weekly basis were also more likely than average to say it was common for people they knew to leave their car at home and choose active travel instead (27%, compared to 21%).

6.2 Car sharing

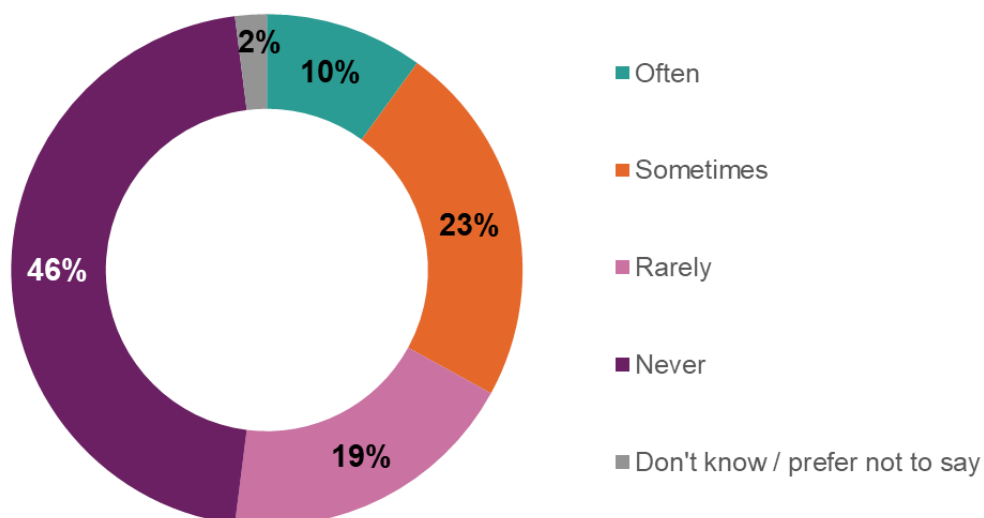
All respondents were asked about their use of different types of car sharing services. Overall, most did not use these services regularly – whether informal arrangements (e.g. sharing a car with people outside their household or using shared transport services) or more formal sharing services (e.g. car clubs, bike share schemes, public e-scooter hire services or lift-sharing services).

Informal car sharing

One in three respondents (33%) said they often or sometimes car shared with people outside their household (e.g. friends, neighbours or work colleagues) to reduce the number of cars used for all or part of a journey. Almost half (46%) never did this (Figure 6.5).

Figure 6.5: Use of informal car sharing arrangements

Q. Thinking about how you typically travel, how often do you: car share with people outside your household to reduce the number of cars used for all or part of a journey?



Base: All respondents (4,041)

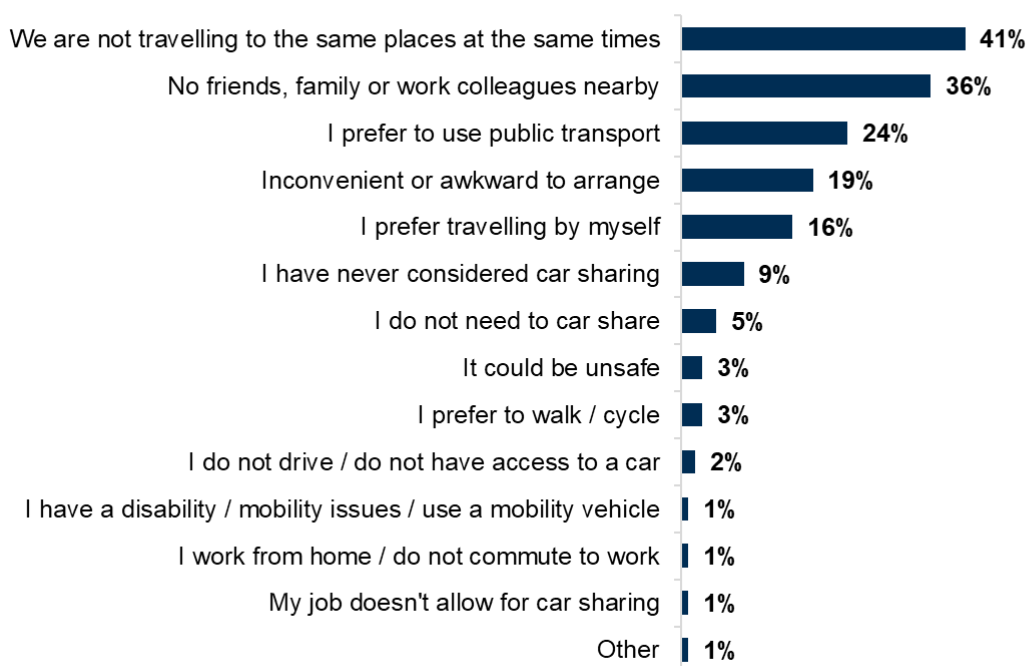
Women (37%, compared to 28% of men) and young people (41% of 16-34 year olds, compared to 30% of those aged 35 and over), were more likely to say they took part in this type of car sharing.

Those who said they rarely or never car shared with others included men (70%, compared to 62% of women), respondents in rural areas (69%, compared to 65% in urban areas), higher income households (69% of those with household incomes of £52,000 and above, compared to 64% of households with an income lower than £52,000) and respondents aged 35 and over (69%, compared to 58% aged 16-34).

Among those who rarely or never car shared with people outside their household, the main reasons given were that they were not travelling to the same places at the same times (41%), they had no friends, family or work colleagues nearby (36%), and they preferred to use public transport (24%) (Figure 6.6).

Figure 6.6: Barriers to informal car sharing

Q. You said that you rarely/never car share with friends, neighbours or work colleagues... What is the main reason(s) for this?



Base: All who rarely/never car share (informal) (2,696)

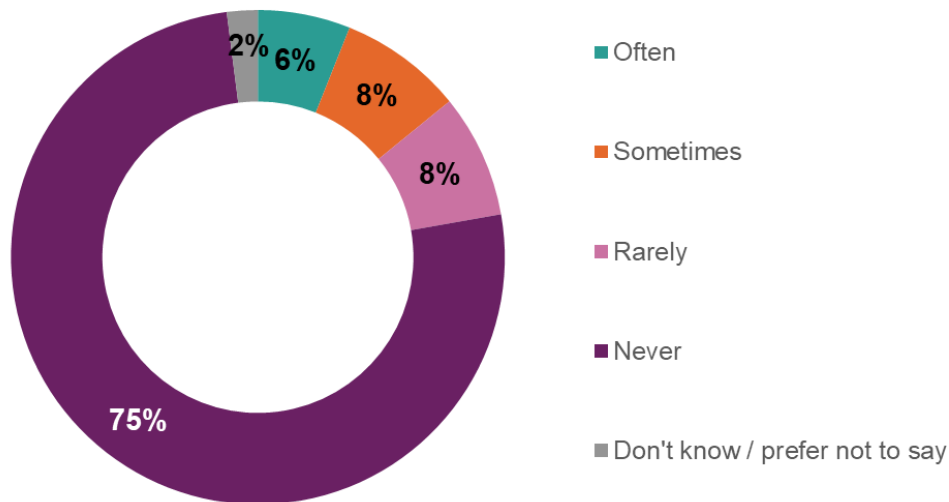
Respondents in rural areas were more likely than those in urban areas to say they were not travelling to the same places at the same time (52%, compared to 38%), that they had no-one nearby to share with (41%, compared to 35%), and that car sharing was inconvenient or awkward to arrange (26%, compared to 18%).

Formal transport sharing services

The use of formal shared transport services, such as a car club, bike share scheme, public e-scooter hire service or lift-sharing service, was less common still. Only 14% said they often or sometimes used these services, with three quarters (75%) saying they never used them (Figure 6.7).

Figure 6.7: Use of formal transport services

Q. Thinking about how you typically travel, how often do you: use a formal shared transport service, e.g. a car club, bike share scheme, public e-scooter hire service or lift-sharing service?

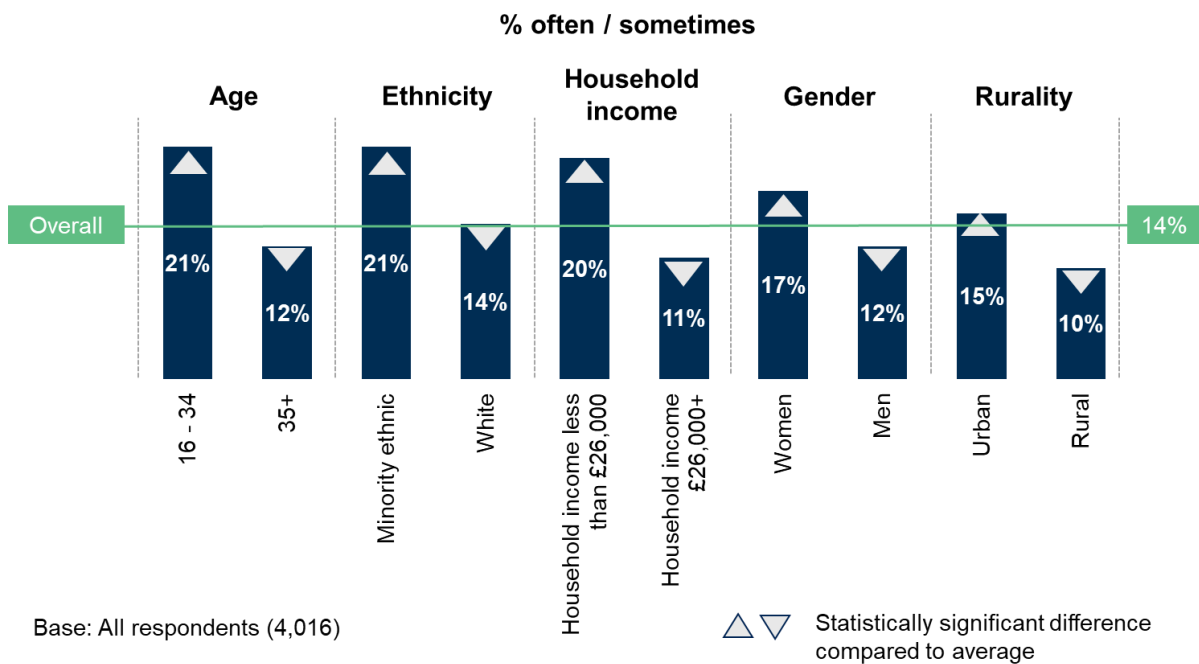


Base: All respondents (4,016)

The groups more likely than average to use formal shared transport services included young people aged 16 to 34, respondents from minority ethnic backgrounds, lower income households, women and those living in urban areas (Figure 6.8).

Figure 6.8: Groups more likely to use formal transport services

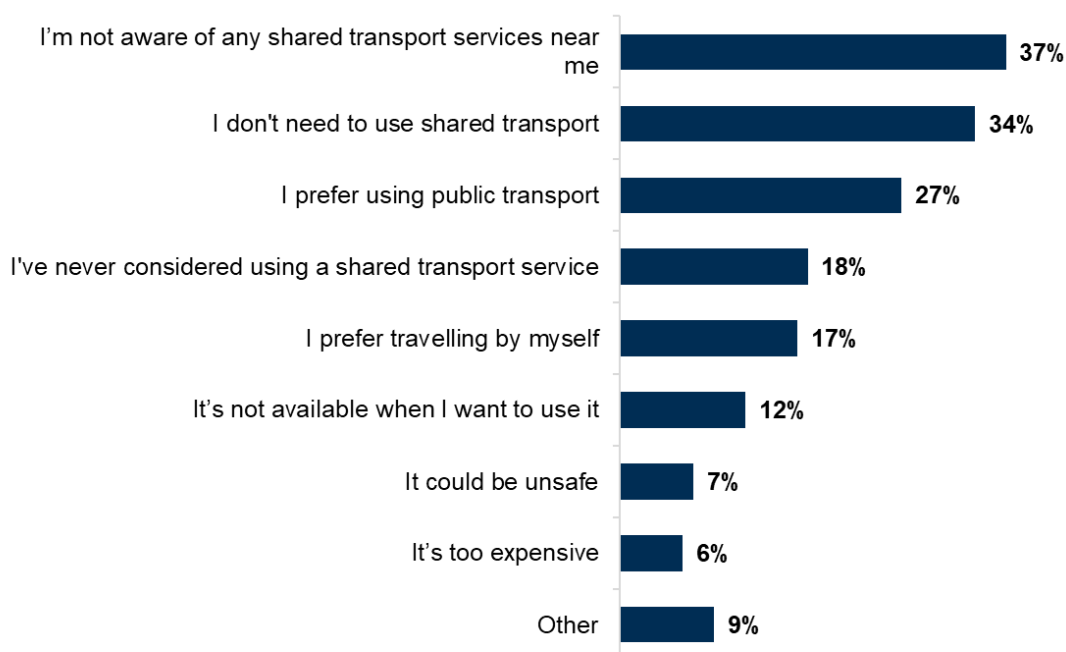
Q. Thinking about how you typically travel, how often do you: use a formal shared transport service, e.g. a car club, bike share scheme, public e-scooter hire service or lift-sharing service?



The main reasons respondents gave for rarely or never using formal shared transport services were that they were not aware of any services nearby (37%), they felt they did not need to use these services (34%), and they preferred using public transport (27%) (Figure 6.9).

Figure 6.9: Barriers to formal transport sharing

Q. You said that you rarely/never use a formal shared transport service... What is the main reason(s) for this?



Base: All who rarely/never car share (formal) (3,503)

Again, challenges related to location impacted on the ability to use shared transport services – 89% of those in rural areas said they rarely or never used formal transport services (compared to 82% in urban areas). Rural residents were more likely to say they were not aware of any such services near them (49%, compared to 34% in urban areas), while those living in urban areas were more likely to say they preferred to use public transport (31%, compared to 11% in rural areas).

6.3 Local decision making about transport

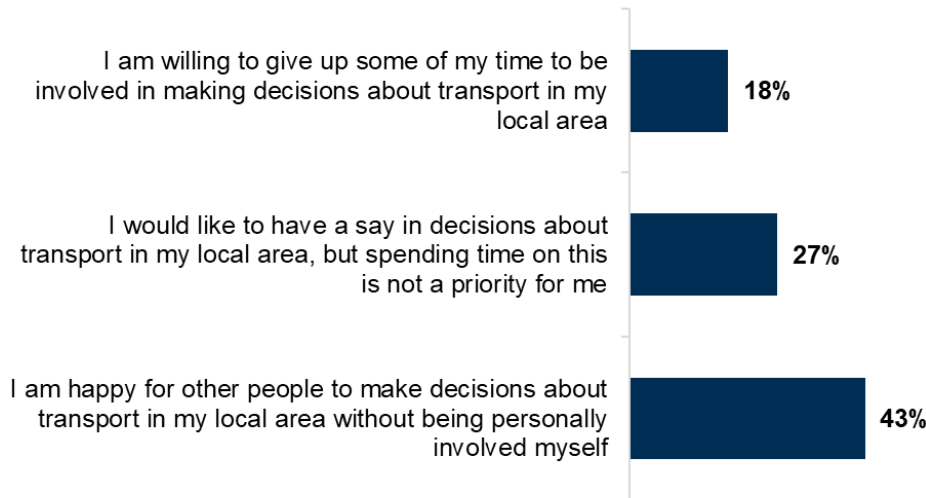
To explore people's interest in being involved in local transport decision making, respondents were asked three questions about this in their local area.

Involvement in local decision making about transport

Less than one in five (18%) said they would be willing to give up their time to be involved in making decisions about transport in their local area, while just over a quarter (27%) said that they would like to have a say in decisions about transport in my local area, but spending time on it was not a priority for them. A higher proportion (43%) were happy for other people to make decisions about transport without being personally involved themselves (Figure 6.10).

Figure 6.10: Willingness to be involved in local decision making about transport

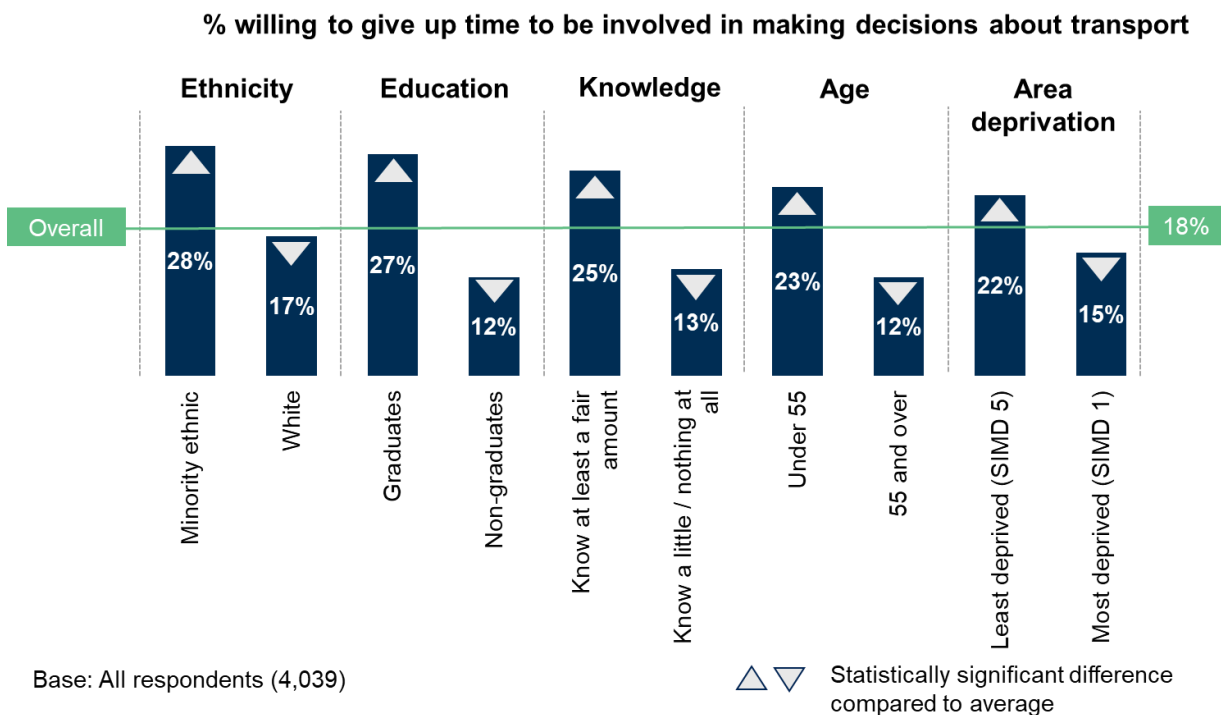
Q. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?



Base: All respondents (4,039)

As shown in Figure 6.11, those more likely than average to say they were willing to give up their time to be involved in decision making about local transport issues included respondents from minority ethnic backgrounds, graduates, those who know at least a fair amount about climate change, those aged under 55 and those living in the least deprived areas (SIMD 5).

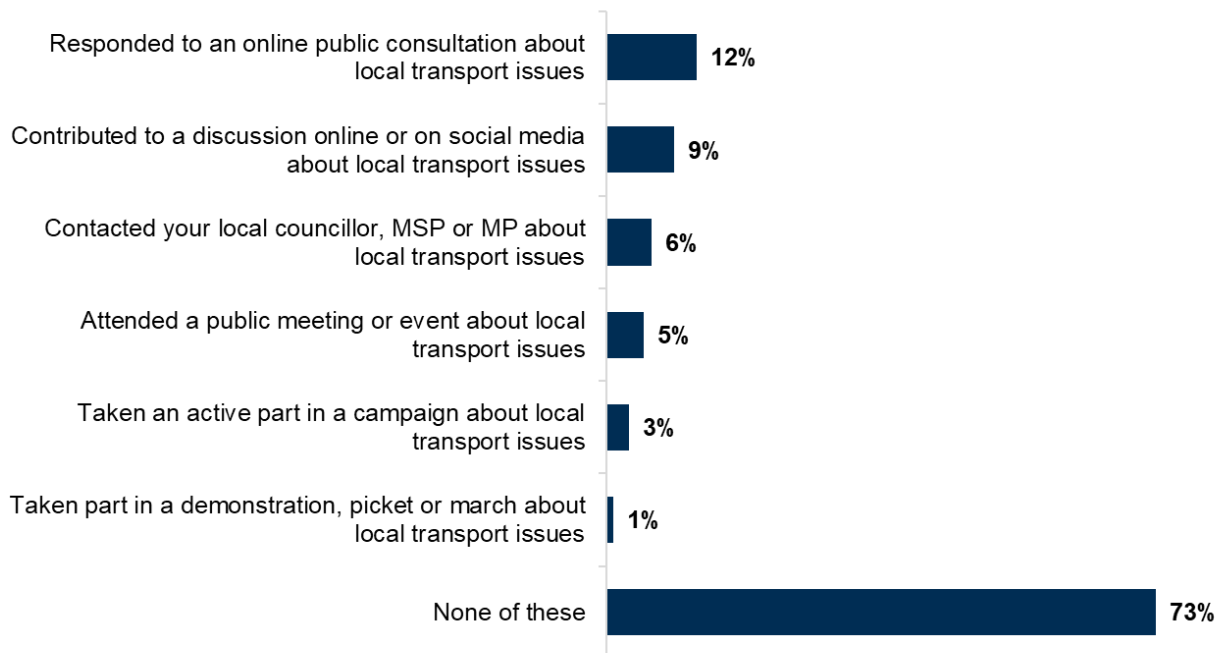
Figure 6.11: Groups more willing to be involved in local decision making about transport



Around a quarter (23%) of respondents said they had been involved in decisions about transport in their local area in the past 12 months. The most common way of doing so was online, either by responding to an online public consultation about local transport issues or by contributing to a discussion online or on social media about local transport issues (12% and 9% respectively). Smaller proportions had contacted their local councillor, MSP or MP (6%) or attended a public meeting or event (5%) (Figure 6.12).

Figure 6.12: Involvement in local decision making about transport in the last 12 months

Q. Have you personally done any of the following in the past 12 months? Please select all that apply.



Base: All respondents (4,066)

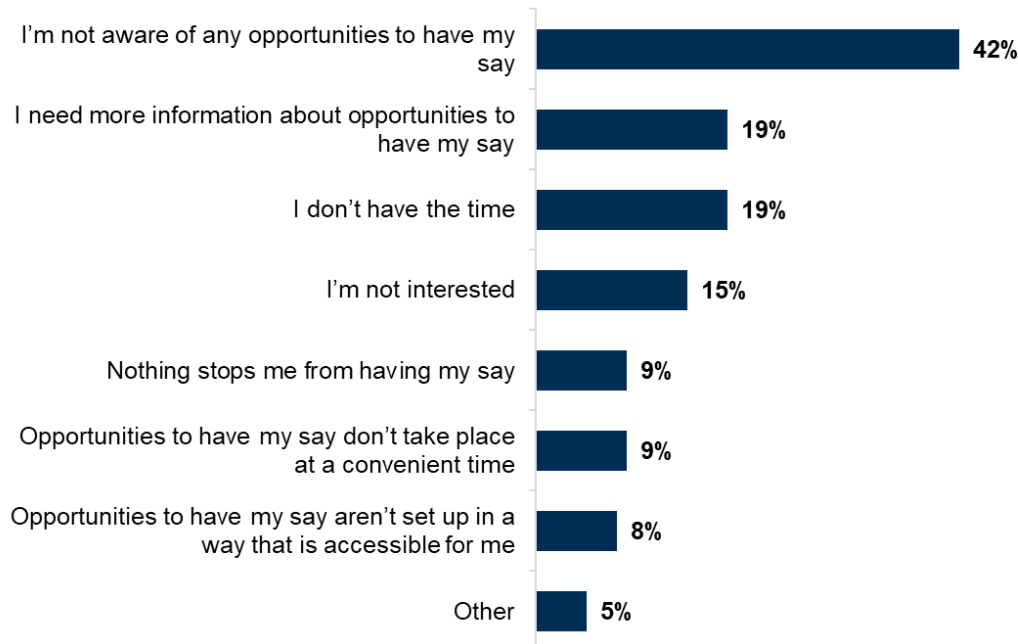
Those aged under 70 were more likely than older respondents to have been involved in decision making about local transport issues online: 14% had responded to an online public consultation (compared to 5% of those aged 70 and over) and 10% had contributed to a discussion online (compared to 3% of those aged 70 and over). Young people aged 16 to 34 were a little more likely to say they had taken part in a campaign about local transport issues (4%, compared to 2% of older respondents) or a demonstration, picket or march (3%, compared to 1%).

Barriers to involvement

The main perceived barrier to being involved in local transport decision making was a lack of awareness of opportunities to do so, cited by four in ten respondents (42%). Around half as many said they needed more information (19%) or did not have the time (19%), while 15% said they were not interested (Figure 6.13).

Figure 6.13: Barriers to involvement in local decision making about transport

Q. What, if anything, stops you from having your say in decisions about transport in your local area? Please select all that apply.



Base: All respondents online (2,953)

Young people aged 16 to 34 (20%), men (19%), non-graduates (19%) and those who knew little or nothing about climate change (18%) were more likely than average to say they were not interested in being involved in local transport decision making (compared to 15% overall).

Those aged under 55 were more likely than older respondents to say that they did not have the time (24%, compared to 9%) or that opportunities to have their say did not take place at a convenient time (11%, compared to 4%).

Respondents from minority ethnic backgrounds (25%), graduates (23%) and those with at least a fair amount of knowledge about climate change (21%) were more likely than average to say they needed more information about opportunities to have their say (compared to 19% overall).

Retirees (47%), graduates (46%), and those with at least a fair amount of knowledge about climate change (45%) were more likely than average to say they were not aware of any opportunities (compared to 42% overall).

7. Home energy and heat decarbonisation

This chapter explores the perceived affordability of households' energy bills, which energy efficiency measures homeowners had installed and any perceived barriers to installing these in future. It also outlines whether homeowners had installed or were planning to install clean and renewable heating systems and the perceived barriers to doing so. Finally, it looks at heat pump owners' motivations for installing a heat pump and the impacts they believe this to have had.

Key findings

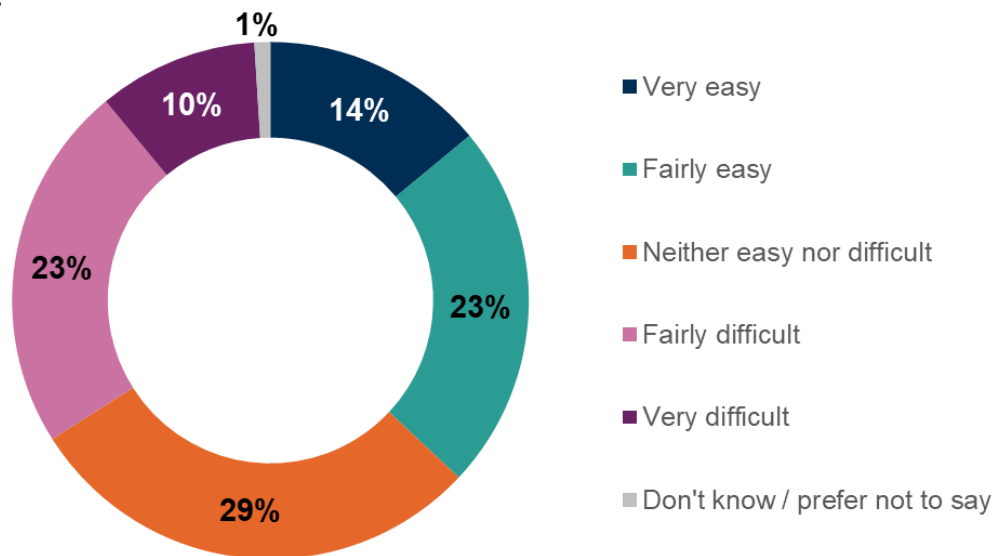
- A third of households (33%) were finding it difficult to afford their energy bills.
- More than four in ten households (42%) said they were having to cut back spending on food and other essentials as a result of the need to spend more on energy bills.
- Most households – 83% - had insulation installed in their home, with loft insulation being the most commonly installed type. The main perceived barriers to installing wall or floor insulation were cost and concerns about the installation being too disruptive.
- Ownership of clean and renewable heating systems was uncommon, with less than 5% of households reporting they had a heat pump installed at home. Among those planning to install such a system in future, households were more likely to say they were planning to install a heat pump than an electric heating system. Cost and a lack of interest were the main barriers given to installing a heat pump.
- Just under six in ten respondents who had installed a heat pump (59%) said their home was warmer, while almost half (49%) reported that they had saved money on energy bills. However, 18% said their home was colder and a quarter (25%) said their energy bills had increased as a result.

7.1 Affordability of energy bills

A third (33%) of respondents who were responsible for paying their household's energy bills said they were finding it difficult to keep up with these payments, while 37% said they were finding it easy. Around one in three (29%) were finding it neither easy nor difficult (Figure 7.1).

Figure 7.1: Affordability of energy bills

Q. How easy or difficult is it for your household to keep up with your energy bills nowadays?



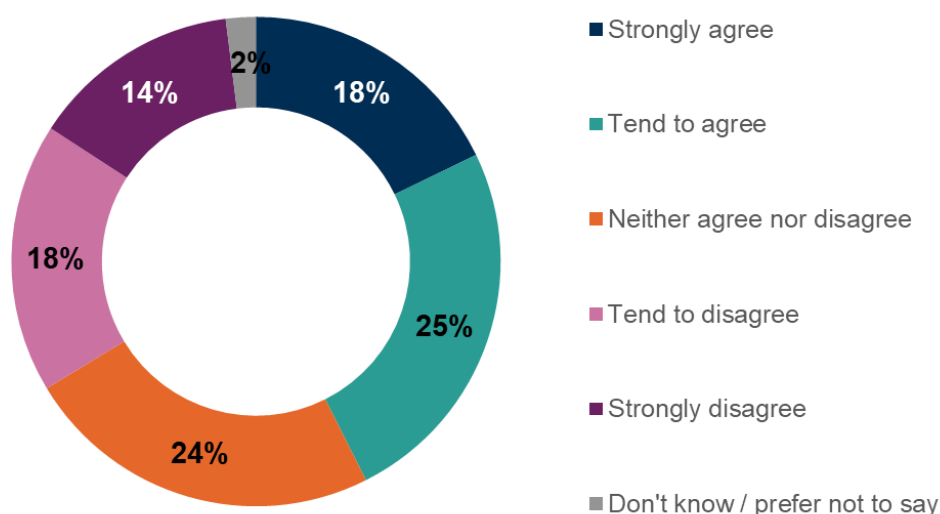
Base: All households responding online (2,256)

Those more likely than average to be finding it difficult to afford their energy bills included: renters (51%), households with an income of less than £26,000 (49%, compared to 33% overall), those living in the most deprived areas (49% in SIMD 1 areas), and disabled people (46%).

More than four in ten households (42%) agreed they were having to cut back spending on food and other essentials as a result of the need to spend more on energy bills, including around two in ten (18%) who strongly agreed they were having to do this (Figure 7.2).

Figure 7.2: Cutting back on other spending as a result of energy bills

Q. My household is cutting back how much we spend on food and/or other essentials because of the need to spend more on energy bills.



Base: All households (3,441)

The groups most likely to be cutting back how much they spent on food and/or other essentials were broadly in line with those finding it difficult to pay their energy bills, including: those in the most deprived areas (63% in SIMD 1 areas, compared to 42% overall), renters (55%), households with an income of less than £26,000 (54%) and those with a disability (54%).

7.2 Energy efficiency measures

Among households that owned outright or were buying their property with a mortgage⁶, a majority (83%) said they had wall, floor and / or loft insulation installed in their home.

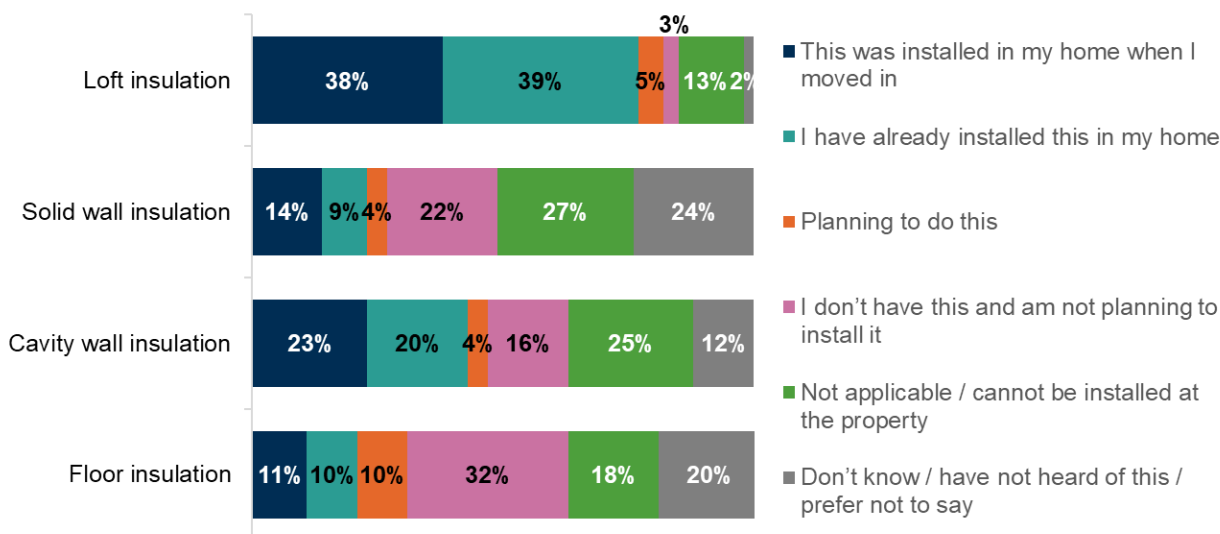
Loft insulation was the most commonly installed type of insulation. Over three quarters of households (77%) that owned outright or who were buying their property with a mortgage had this installed in their home, including 39% who had installed this after they moved in. Four in ten (43%) had cavity wall insulation, including 20% who had installed it after they moved in. Smaller proportions had solid wall (22%) or floor insulation (20%) (Figure 7.3).

⁶ Questions about the ownership and installation of insulation were only asked to respondents who owned their property outright or were buying it with a mortgage.

Reflecting the relative difficulty of determining whether or not these types of insulation had been installed, households were more likely to say they did not know if they had wall or floor insulation (or that they had not heard of it), in comparison to loft insulation. A quarter (24%) said this about solid wall insulation, 20% about floor insulation and 12% about cavity wall insulation, in comparison to 2% about loft insulation.

Figure 7.3: Types of insulation in the home

Q. Which of the following, if any, do you have or are you planning to install in your home?



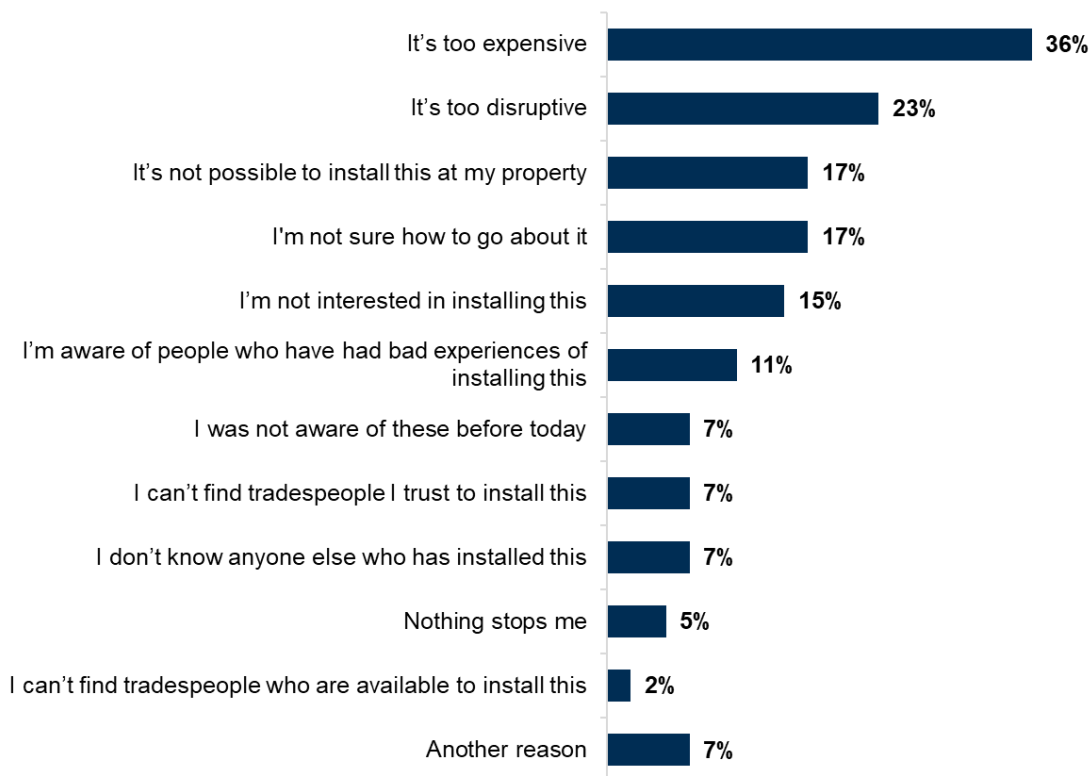
Base: All households that own home / buying home with a mortgage: Loft (2,611), Solid wall (2,422), Cavity wall (2,483), Floor insulation (2,439)

Rural households were more likely to have wall, floor and/or loft insulation installed in their home (92%, compared to 81% of urban households). Those living in houses were more likely to have loft and wall insulation installed in comparison to those in flats or apartments.

The main barriers households that did not already have wall or floor insulation installed reported to installing these were cost (mentioned by 36%), and concerns about the installation being too disruptive (23%) (Figure 7.4). Other barriers included not being sure how to go about installing it (17%), that it was not possible to install this type of insulation at the property (17%) and no interest in doing so (15%).

Figure 7.4: Barriers to installing insulation

Q. What, if anything, stops you from installing wall or floor insulation in your home?



Base: All who are planning to / not planning to install solid wall, cavity wall or floor insulation (1,210)

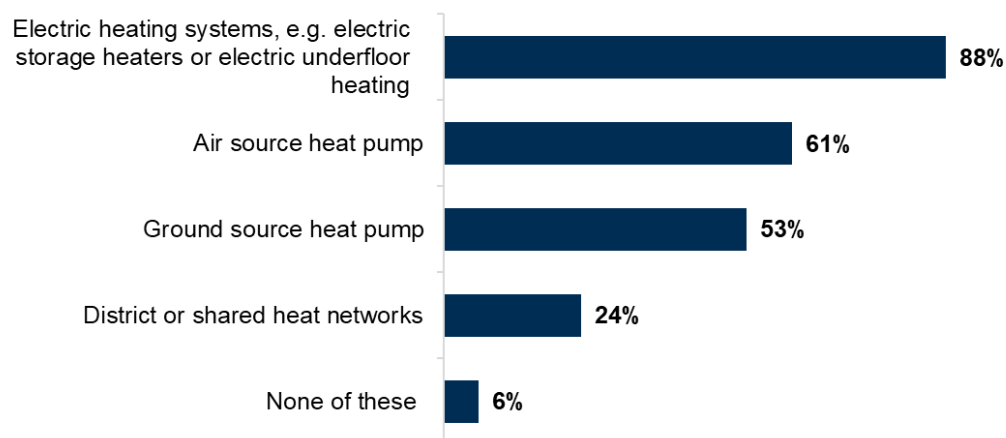
7.3 Clean and renewable heating systems

Awareness and ownership of clean and renewable heating systems

A large majority of respondents (88%) had heard of electric heating systems, such as storage heaters and underfloor heating (Figure 7.5). Awareness of other clean and renewable heating systems was lower – 61% had heard of air source heat pumps and 53% had heard of ground source heat pumps, while fewer (24%) had heard of district or shared heat networks.

Figure 7.5: Awareness of clean and renewable heating systems

Q. Before today, which of the following heating systems had you heard of?



Base: All respondents (3,457)

As shown in Figure 7.6, awareness of air or ground source heat pumps or of district heat networks was higher than average among those living in rural areas, those living in detached houses, owner occupiers, those living in less deprived areas (SIMD 3, 4 or 5), graduates, those who knew at least a fair amount about climate change, men and white respondents.

Figure 7.6: Groups more likely to be aware of clean and renewable heating systems

Q. Before today, which of the following heating systems had you heard of?



Base: All respondents (3,457)

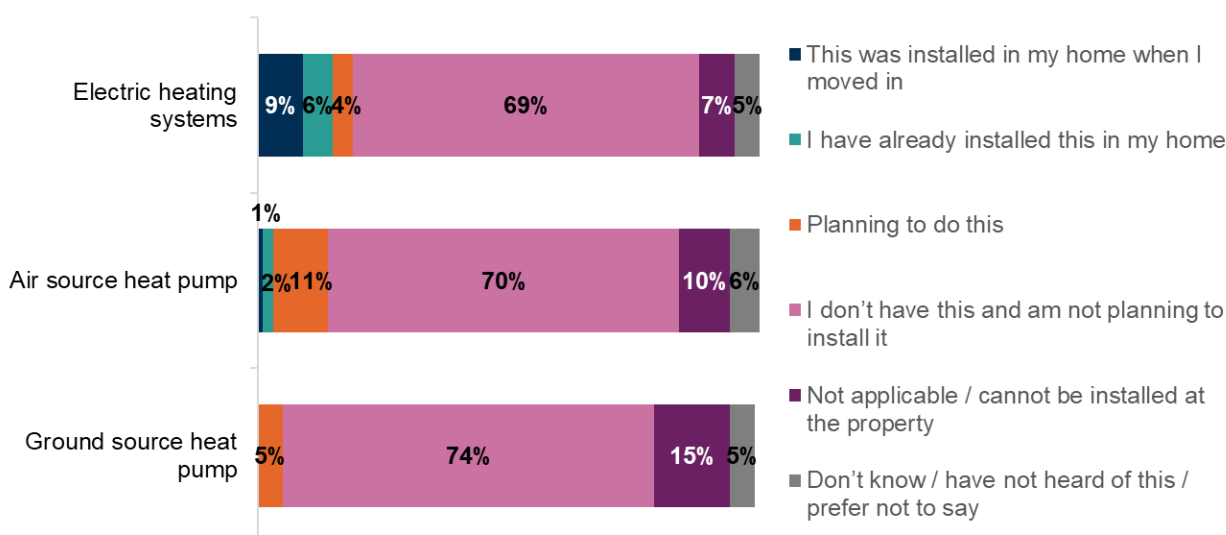
▲ ▼ Statistically significant difference compared to average

Among households that owned outright or were buying their property with a mortgage⁷ ownership of clean and renewable heating systems was fairly uncommon: 15% had an electric heating system (including 6% who had installed it after they moved in), 3% had installed an air source heat pump (including 2% who had installed it after they moved in), while just one per cent of households had a ground source heat pump (Figure 7.7).

While a majority said they had no intention of installing a clean and renewable heating system in the future, households who were planning to install one showed a greater inclination towards installing heat pumps in the future than electric heating systems, with 11% saying they are planning to install an air source heat pump and 5% a ground source heat pump, while 4% were planning to install an electric heating system.

Figure 7.7: Ownership of clean and renewable heating systems

Q. Which of the following heating systems, if any, do you have or are you planning to install in your home?



Base: All households that own home / buying home with a mortgage who have heard of heating system: Electric heating systems (2,393); Air source heat pump (1,962); Ground source heat pumps (1,729)

Those living in rural areas or detached properties were more likely than average to have an air source heat pump installed (11% and 6%, compared to 3% overall). Among those more likely than average to be planning to install an air source heat pump were higher income households (£52,000 and above) (15%, compared to 11% overall), householders aged under 55 (14%), graduates (14%) and those with at least a fair amount of knowledge about climate change (14%).

⁷ Questions about the ownership and installation of heating systems were only asked to respondents who owned their property outright or were buying it with a mortgage.

Householders living in a flat or apartment were more likely than average to be planning to install an electric heating system (7%, compared to 4% overall).

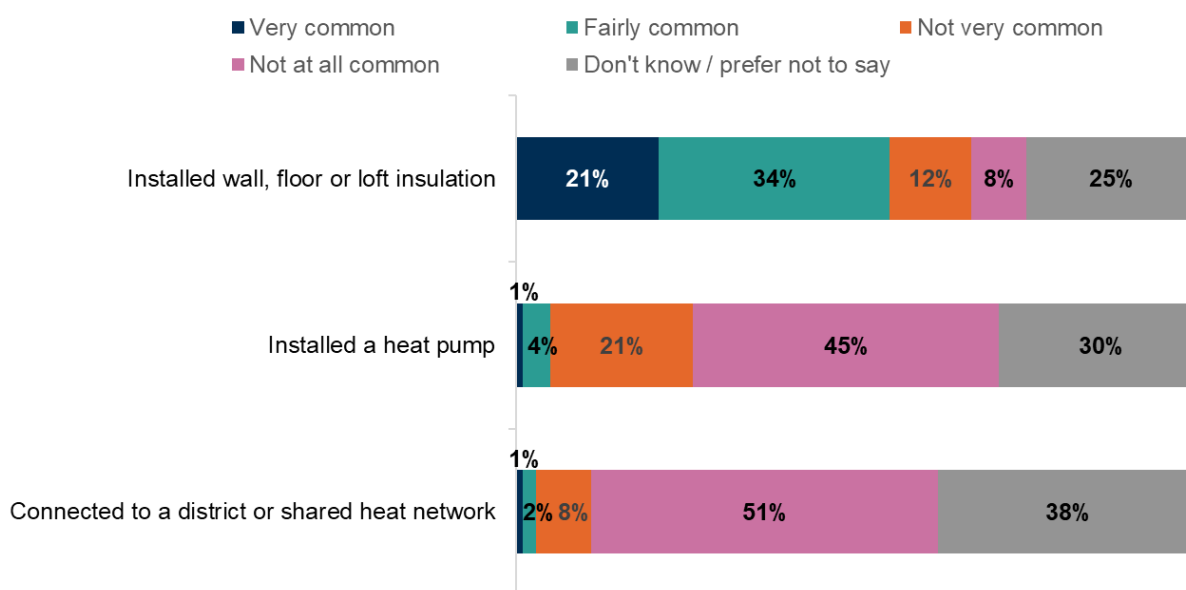
Prevalence of clean and renewable heating systems and insulation among friends, family or colleagues

Respondents were asked how common it was for people they know (friends, family or work colleagues) to have installed insulation or a heat pump at home, or for them to be connected to a district or shared heat network.

More than half (55%) said it was common for people they know to have wall, floor or loft insulation. Much smaller proportions said it was common for them to have installed a heat pump (5%) or to be connected to a district heat network (3%). However, at least a quarter of respondents did not know if their friends, family or work colleagues had insulation (24%) or a heat pump (29%) installed or if they were connected to a district heat network (38%) (Figure 7.8).

Figure 7.8: Installation of clean and renewable heating systems and insulation among others

Q. As far as you know, how common is it for your friends, family or work colleagues to have done the following to their home?



Base: All households responding online (2,346)

Respondents who said it was common for people they knew to have installed a heat pump were also much more likely to have installed one in their own home than those who didn't know people who had installed one. Almost one in five (17%) of those who said it was common for people they knew to have done this had installed a heat pump in their home after they moved in, while only 2% of those who said it was uncommon among people they knew had done this.

Similarly, respondents who said it was common for people they knew to have installed insulation were more likely to have done this themselves than those who said it was uncommon. Half (52%) of this group had installed wall, floor or loft insulation in their home since moving in, compared to 39% who said this was uncommon among people they knew.

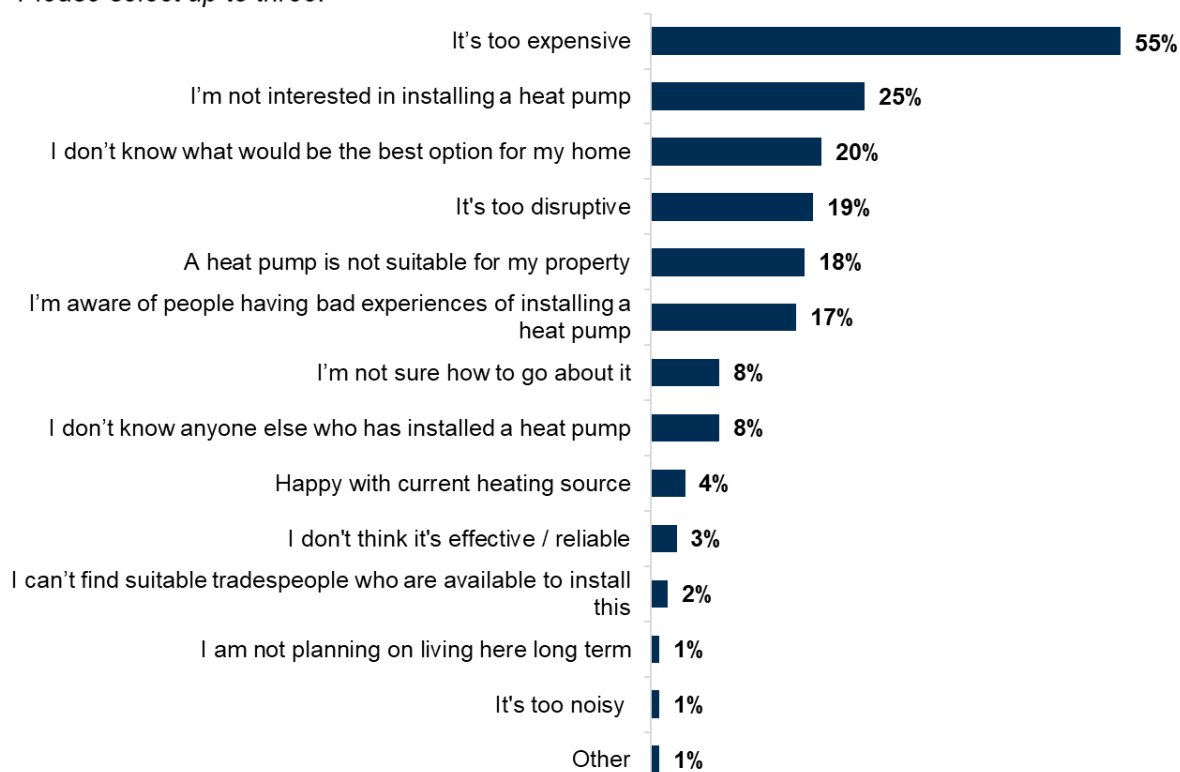
Those living in rural areas and young people aged 16 to 34 were more likely than average to say it was common for people they knew to have installed a heat pump (12% and 9% respectively, compared to 5% overall). Connection to a district heat network was also more common among younger respondents' social circles (6% among 16- to 34-year-olds, compared to 3% overall).

Barriers to installing a heat pump

Cost was the main barrier perceived to installing a heat pump, cited by more than half of respondents (55%) who did not have a heat pump installed at home. A quarter (25%) said they were not interested in installing a heat pump. Around one in five said they did not know what the best option would be for their home (20%), that they thought installation would be too disruptive (19%), a heat pump was not suitable for their property (18%) or people they knew had had bad experiences of installing a heat pump (17%) (Figure 7.9).

Figure 7.9: Barriers to installing a heat pump

*Q. What, if anything, is currently stopping you from installing a heat pump in your home?
Please select up to three.*



Base: All households planning to / not planning to install a heat pump (1,282)

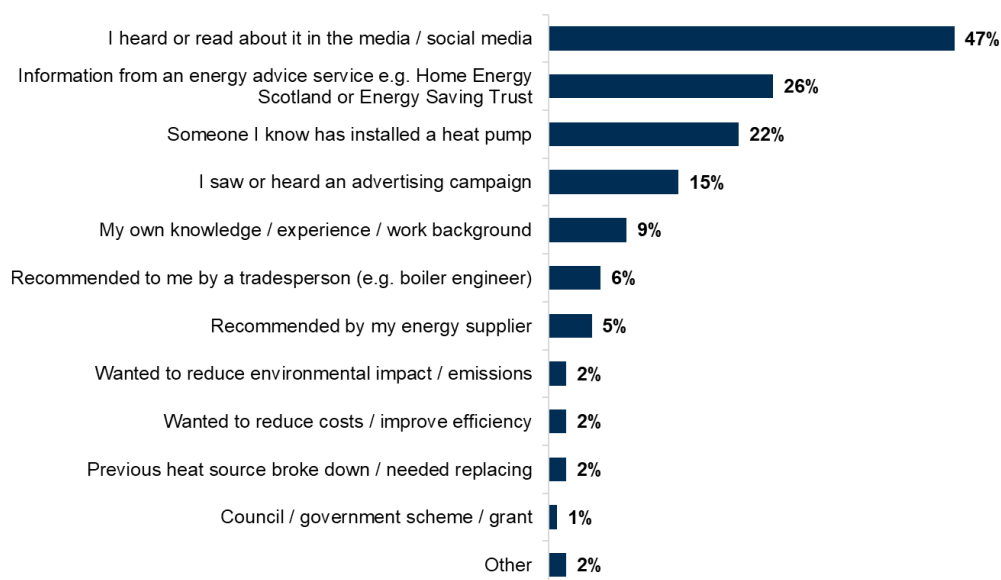
Lack of interest in installing a heat pump was higher among those who thought climate change was not a problem or not happening (55%), low-income households (32%), non-graduates (31%), and those aged over 55 (30%), compared to 25% overall.

Motivations for installing a heat pump

Householders who had installed or were planning to install a heat pump were asked what had got them interested in doing so. As shown in Figure 7.10, this was most commonly as a result of hearing or reading about heat pumps in the media or on social media, mentioned by almost half (47%). Others had received information provided by an energy advice service (26%) or knew someone who had installed a heat pump (22%).

Figure 7.10: Interest in installing a heat pump

Q. What got you interested in the idea of installing a heat pump in your home? Please select all that apply.



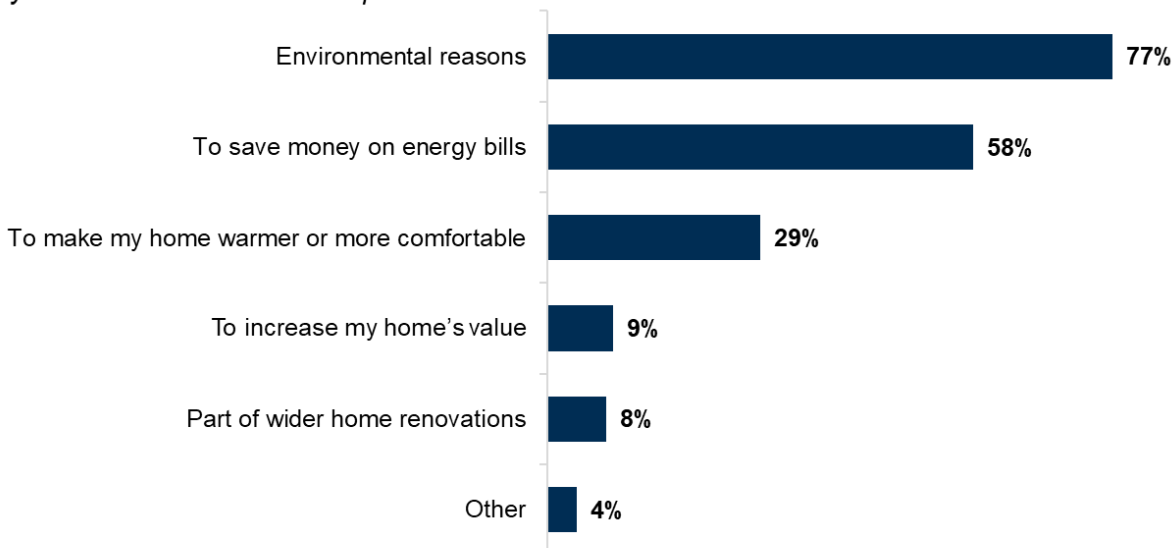
Base: All who have installed / planning to install a heat pump (346)

Urban households were more likely than rural to say they heard or read about heat pumps in the media (53%, compared to 34%), while rural households were more likely to have received information provided by an energy advice service (33%, compared to 23% in urban households).

Environmental and financial motivations were the main reasons for installing or planning to install a heat pump. Over three quarters of households (77%) cited environmental reasons, while 58% mentioned saving money on energy bills (Figure 7.11).

Figure 7.11: Reasons for installing a heat pump

Q. What was/is your main reason for deciding to install / planning to install a heat pump in your home? Please select up to three.



Base: All who have installed / planning to install a heat pump (342)

Graduates and those who knew at least a fair amount about climate change were more likely than average to mention environmental reasons (85% and 83% respectively, compared to 77% overall).

Impacts of installing a heat pump

While a majority of respondents who had installed a heat pump had experienced positive impacts, a small proportion had experienced negative impacts (Figure 7.12).

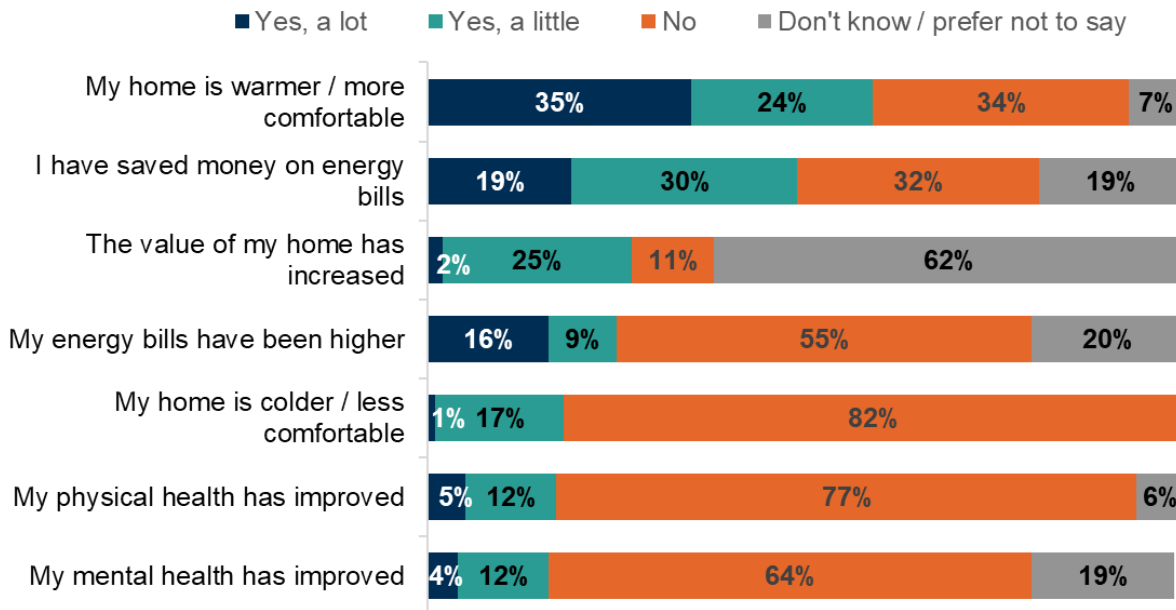
As a result of installing a heat pump, 59% of heat pump owners said their home was warmer or more comfortable, including 35% who reported their home was a lot warmer. However, a third (34%) said this was not the case, and 18% said that their home was colder or less comfortable.

A similar pattern was found regarding energy bills. Almost half (49%) said they had saved money on their energy bills as a result of installing a heat pump (including 19% who had saved a lot). However, a third (32%) reported they had not saved any money, and a quarter (25%) said their energy bills had increased as a result of installing a heat pump.

In terms of other impacts, just over a quarter said the value of their home had increased (27%), although most owners (62%) did not know. Under one in five (17%) said their physical or mental health had improved.

Figure 7.12: Impacts of installing a heat pump

Q. Would you say that as a result of installing a heat pump...



Base: All who have installed a heat pump: Home is warmer (70), Saved money on bills (69), Home value increased (69), Mental health improved (68), Physical health improved (68), Home is colder (66), Energy bills higher (68)

8. Food and diet

This chapter outlines patterns of climate-relevant behaviours around food and diet, particularly with respect to consumption of meat and dairy products and seasonal and locally produced food.

Key findings

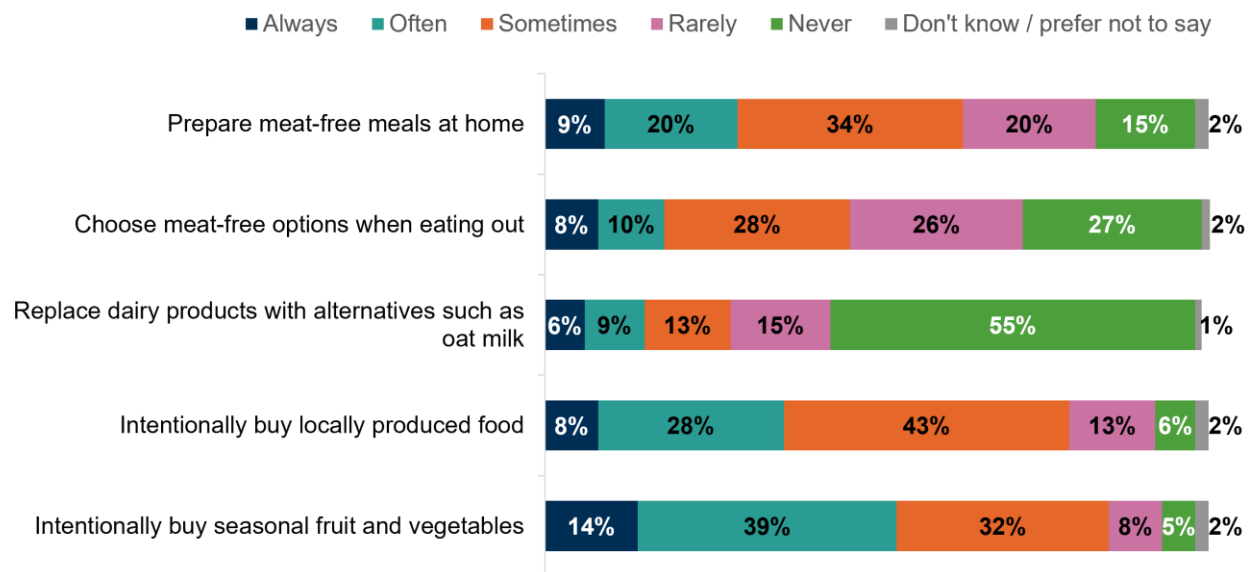
- Around one in three respondents (29%) said they always or often prepared meat-free meals at home, while fewer (17%) reported they always or often chose meat-free options when eating out.
- Around one in seven (15%) said that they always or often replace dairy products with non-dairy alternatives such as oat milk. Young people, graduates and those from higher-income households were more likely than average to say they do this.
- Over half (53%) reported that they always or often intentionally buy seasonal fruit and vegetables, while 36% said that they intentionally buy locally produced food always or often. Those living in rural areas and the over 70s were more likely to say they did each of these.
- Respondents who said it was common for people they know to make meat-free meals at home, choose meat-free options when eating out or replace dairy products with non-dairy alternatives were also more likely to report that they make those food choices themselves.

8.1 Food choices

More than six in ten respondents (63%) reported preparing meat-free meals at home at least sometimes, with 29% saying they did so always or often. However, fewer (46%) reported that they choose meat-free options when eating out at least sometimes – including 17% who reported doing so always or often (Figure 8.1).

Figure 8.1: Food choices

Q. Thinking about the food you typically eat, how often do you do the following, if at all?



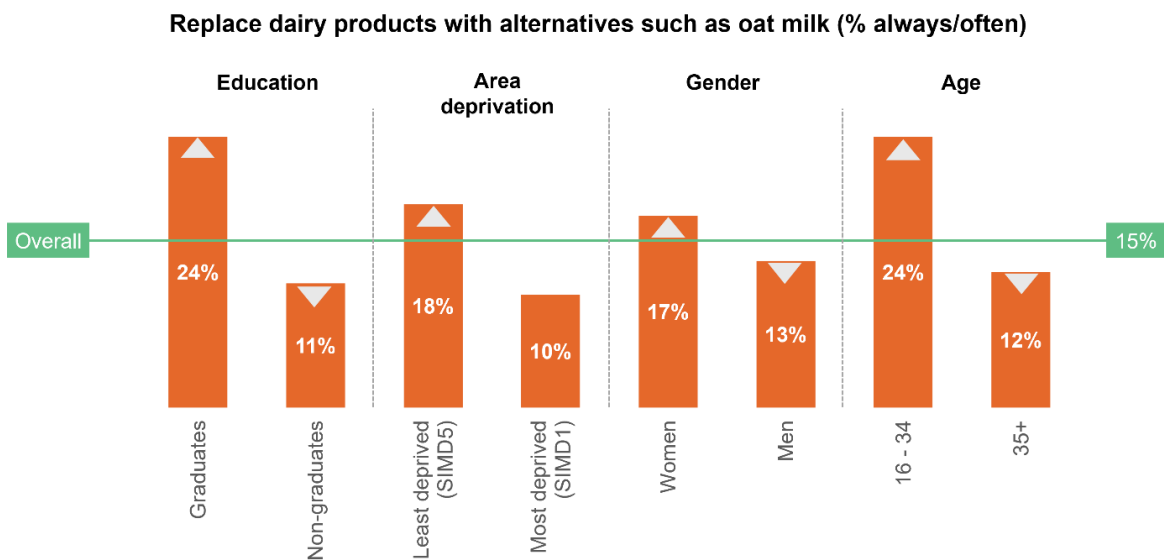
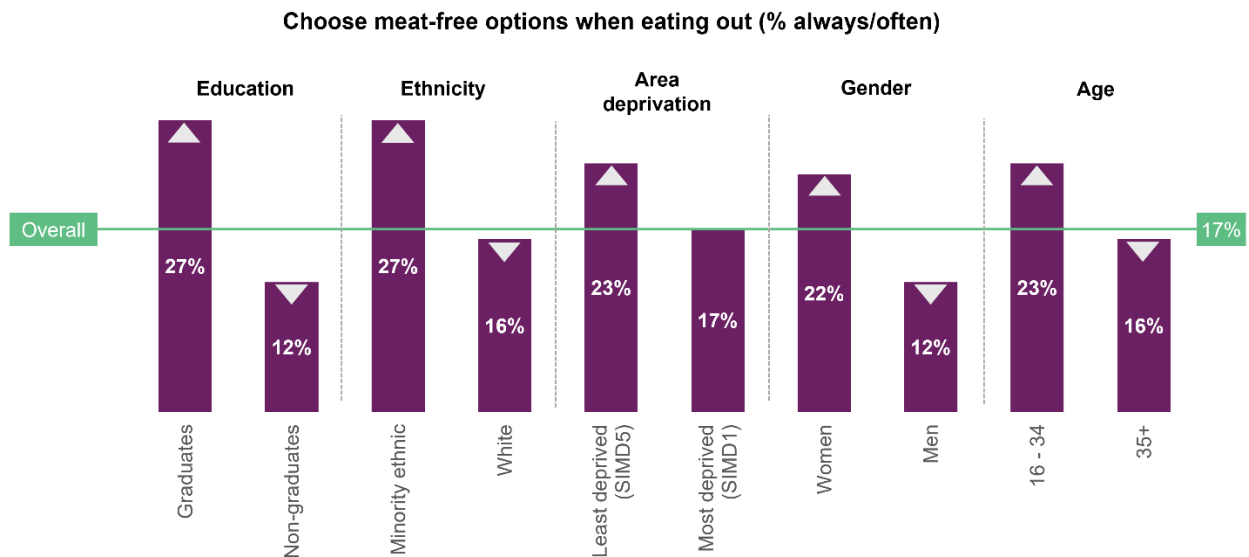
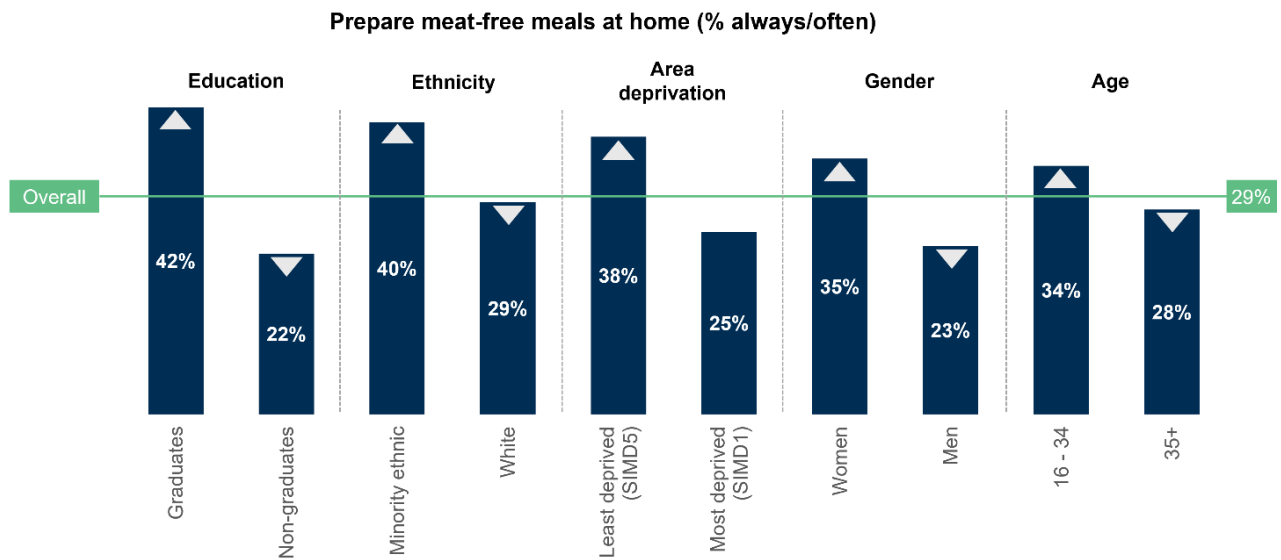
Base: All respondents: Prepare (4,024), Choose (3,992), Replace (3,992), Locally (4,005), Seasonally (4,038)

Young people aged 16-34 were more likely than other respondents to say they always or often made meat-free meals at home (34%, compared to 28% of those aged 35 and over), as were those who knew at least a fair amount about climate change (36%, compared to 21% of those who knew a little or nothing at all). As discussed in Chapter 7, both groups were also more likely to say that eating less meat and dairy was one of the four most effective actions individuals living in Scotland could take to reduce their contribution to climate change.

Other groups more likely than average to report making meat-free meals at home always/often were graduates (42%), minority ethnic respondents (40%), those living in the least deprived areas of Scotland (38%), those on higher incomes (35%) and women (35%). When it comes to people's food choices when eating out, these subgroup patterns were broadly similar.

Figure 8.2: Subgroup differences in food choices

Q. Thinking about the food you typically eat, how often do you do the following, if at all?



Base: All respondents: Prepare (4,024), Choose (3,992), Replace (3,992)

△ ▽ Statistically significant difference compared to the average

Around one in seven of the Scottish public (15%) say that they always or often replace dairy products with alternatives such as oat milk. Those who do are more likely to be young (24%), graduates (24%), with higher household incomes (21%), have higher levels of knowledge about climate change (20%) and live in areas of lower deprivation (SIMD 3-5) (17-19%).

Around half (53%) of respondents reported that they always or often intentionally buy seasonal fruit and vegetables, while 36% said that they always or often intentionally buy food that has been produced locally. Those aged over 70 (68%), rural residents (62%) and women (58%) were all more likely than average to report intentionally buying seasonal fruit and vegetables always or often. Those living in rural areas (49%) and the over 70s (46%) were also more likely than average (36%) to say they intentionally buy locally produced food either always or often.

8.2 Prevalence of food choices among friends, family or colleagues

Respondents were also asked how common these food choices were among people they know. Just under two in five respondents (38%) said it was common for people in their social circle to prepare meat-free meals at home. Slightly fewer reported that it was common for people they know to replace dairy products with non-dairy alternatives (31%) or to choose meat-free options when eating out (28%). Respondents who said it was common for people they know to choose meat-free options or use dairy alternatives were also more likely to report that they make these choices themselves, in comparison to those who said it was not common:

- Half (50%) of those who said it was common for people they know to eat meat free meals at home also said they always or often did this themselves, compared to 18% who said this was not common among people they know.
- A third (33%) of those who said it was common for people they know to choose meat free options when eating out said they always or often did this themselves, compared to 13% who said this was not common among people they know.
- One in three (30%) of those who said it was common for people they know to replace dairy products with alternatives said they always or often did this themselves, compared to 12% who said this was not common among those they know.

Young people aged 16-34, women, graduates, high-income households, those living in large urban areas and the least deprived areas, and respondents who knew at least a fair amount about climate change were all more likely than average to say it was common for people they knew to make any of the three food choices.

9. Nature and the built environment

This chapter explores public awareness of the biodiversity crisis in Scotland and their interaction with nature – how often people in Scotland spend time in green and blue spaces and to what extent they see benefits in doing so. Finally, it presents findings on public participation in decisions around how public spaces are used in their local area, including their willingness to be involved in decision making, barriers to participation and ways they have been involved in the past.

Key findings

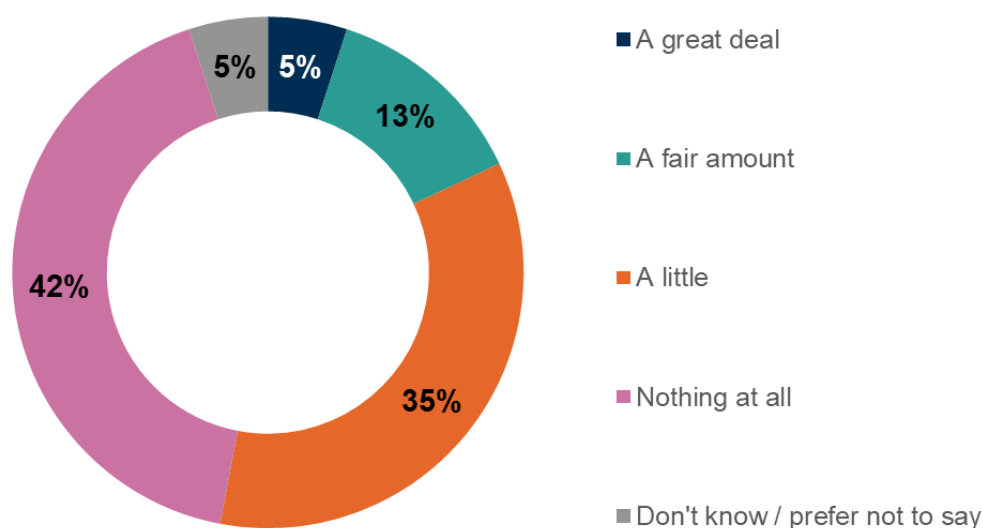
- Over three quarters of respondents (77%) said they knew little or nothing about Scotland’s biodiversity crisis, while around two in ten (19%) reported knowing at least a fair amount about this.
- Six in ten (62%) had spent time in local green or blue spaces at least once a week in the past month. A large majority agreed that spending time in local green or blue spaces had benefits for their mental and physical health (both 86%), while over half (54%) felt it made them feel more connected to their community.
- Disabled people, those living in Scotland’s most deprived areas, tenants and non-graduates were all less likely than average to have spent time in local green or blue spaces over the previous month.
- Just over one in five (22%) respondents said they had been involved in decision making about the use of local public spaces in the past year.
- The main perceived barriers to involvement in decision making included lack of awareness about the existence of opportunities to get involved, needing more information about such opportunities and lack of time.

9.1 Knowledge about Scotland’s biodiversity crisis

More than three quarters (77%) of respondents said they knew little or nothing about the biodiversity crisis in Scotland. Graduates and those who felt they knew at least a fair amount about climate change also tended to report higher levels of knowledge about Scotland’s biodiversity crisis - 27% and 28% of respondents in each group respectively said that they knew at least a fair amount about this topic, compared to 19% overall. Other groups were more likely to report knowing at least a fair amount about Scotland’s biodiversity crisis included those living in rural (25%) (particularly, in remote rural – 32%) areas and homeowners (21%). In contrast, residents of urban areas (17%) and tenants (14%) were less likely to know as much about the issue (Figure 9.1).

Figure 9.1: Knowledge about Scotland’s biodiversity crisis

Q. Before today, how much, if anything, would you say you knew about the biodiversity crisis in Scotland?



Base: All respondents online (2,953)

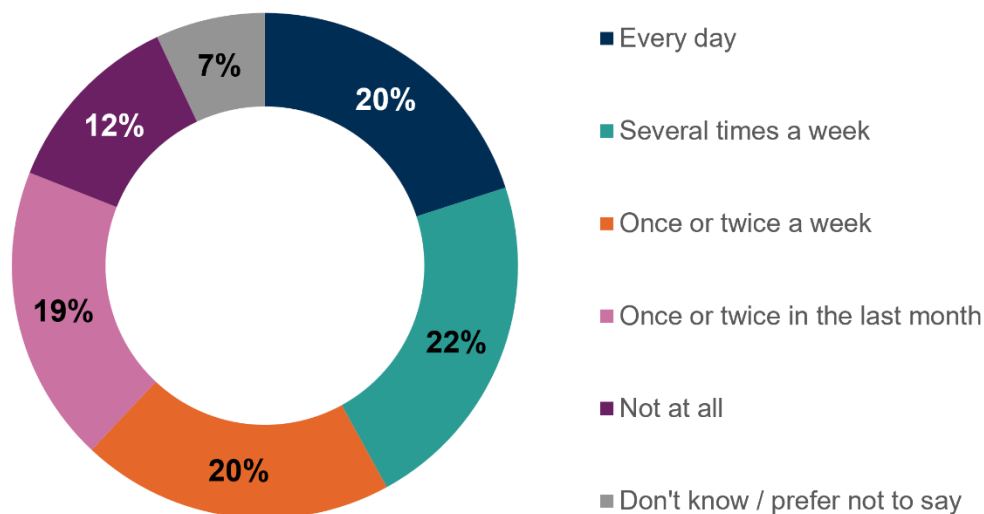
9.2 Frequency of spending time in green and blue spaces

As shown in Figure 9.2, almost two thirds (62%) of respondents reported spending time in green or blue spaces at least once a week in the past month. This compares with 57% in the most recent published results from the [Scottish Household Survey \(2023\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/environment-statistics-from-the-scottish-household-survey-2023/)⁸. One in five (20%) reported they spent time in a local green or blue space every day. Just under a third of respondents (31%) did so less than once a week, including 12% who said they did not spend any time at all in green or blue spaces.

⁸ Scottish Government, 2023: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/environment-statistics-from-the-scottish-household-survey-2023/>

Figure 9.2: Frequency of spending time in green or blue spaces

Q. In the last month, how often, if at all, did you spend time in a local green or blue space, even if just to pass through it?



Base: All respondents (4,058)

Those living in rural areas tend to spend time in green and blue spaces more often than those in urban areas – 73% of rural residents reported they had visited green or blue spaces at least once a week over the past month, compared to 60% of urban residents. Respondents aged 70 and over also reported visiting green and blue space less frequently than average, with 55% saying they visited at least weekly in the past month. This pattern is similar to that found in the most recent Scottish Household Survey results.

Disabled people, those living in the most deprived areas (SIMD 1 and 2), tenants and non-graduates were among the groups least likely to spend time in green and blue spaces. These sub-group patterns are consistent with [previous Scottish Government research](#)⁹ highlighting inequalities in access to coastal space in Scotland. Respondents living in Scotland's most deprived areas were almost two and a half times more likely not to have spent time in green and blue spaces in the past month, compared to those in the least deprived areas (19% vs 8%).

Respondents with a higher household income of £52,000 and above (92%) and graduates (91%) were also more likely to say they have accessed green/blue space at least once in the past month than those from households with incomes of less than £26,000 (75%) and non-graduates (77%) were.

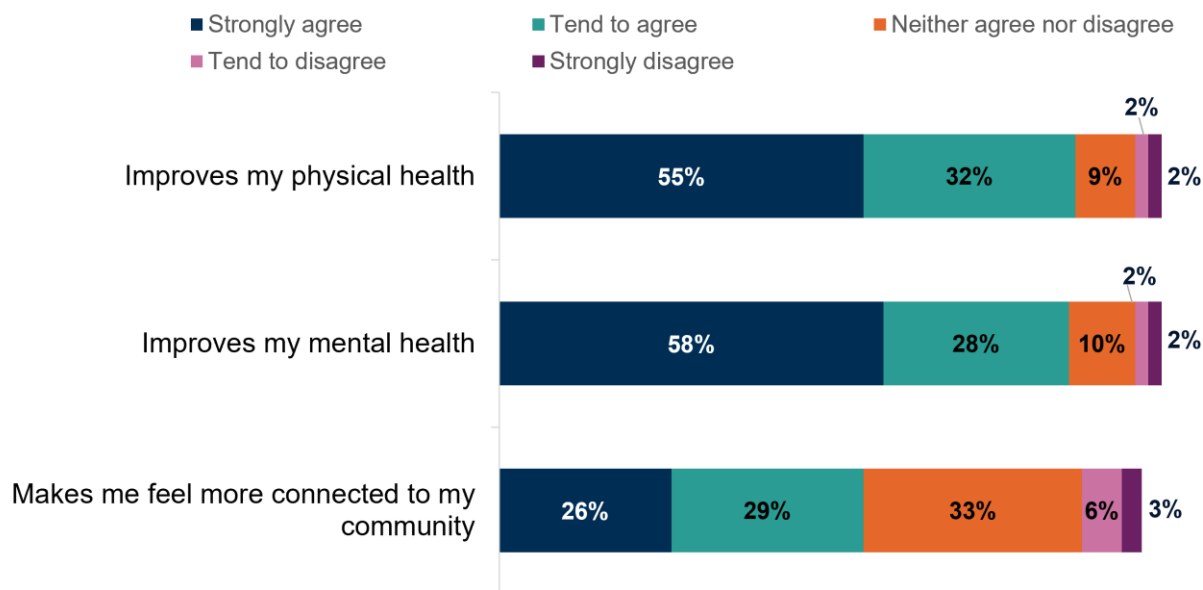
⁹ Scottish Government, 2023: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/inequalities-access-blue-coastal-space-scotland-research-report/pages/5/>

9.3 Perceived benefits of spending time in green or blue space

Among those who spent time in green or blue spaces at least once a month, the overwhelming majority agreed that this had benefits for both their mental and physical health (both 86%)¹⁰. Over half (54%)¹¹ also agreed that it makes them feel more connected to their community (Figure 9.3).

Figure 9.3: Perceived benefits of spending time in green or blue spaces

Q. Spending time in local green or blue spaces...



Base: All who have spent time in a local green or blue space in the last month: Physical (3,451), Mental (3,346), Connected (3,435)

These findings are in line with [previous research](#)¹² conducted by Ipsos for the Scottish Government in 2023 which found mental and physical health and socialising with friends and family to be the key benefits associated with and reasons for visiting blue space. Although spending time in nature was associated with positive health outcomes consistently across all subgroups, graduates (92% - physical health; 93% - mental health), respondents living in the least deprived areas (91% on both) and those on higher incomes (90% on both) – the groups that tend to visit green or blue spaces most frequently – were more likely to agree that spending time in nature improves their mental and physical health.

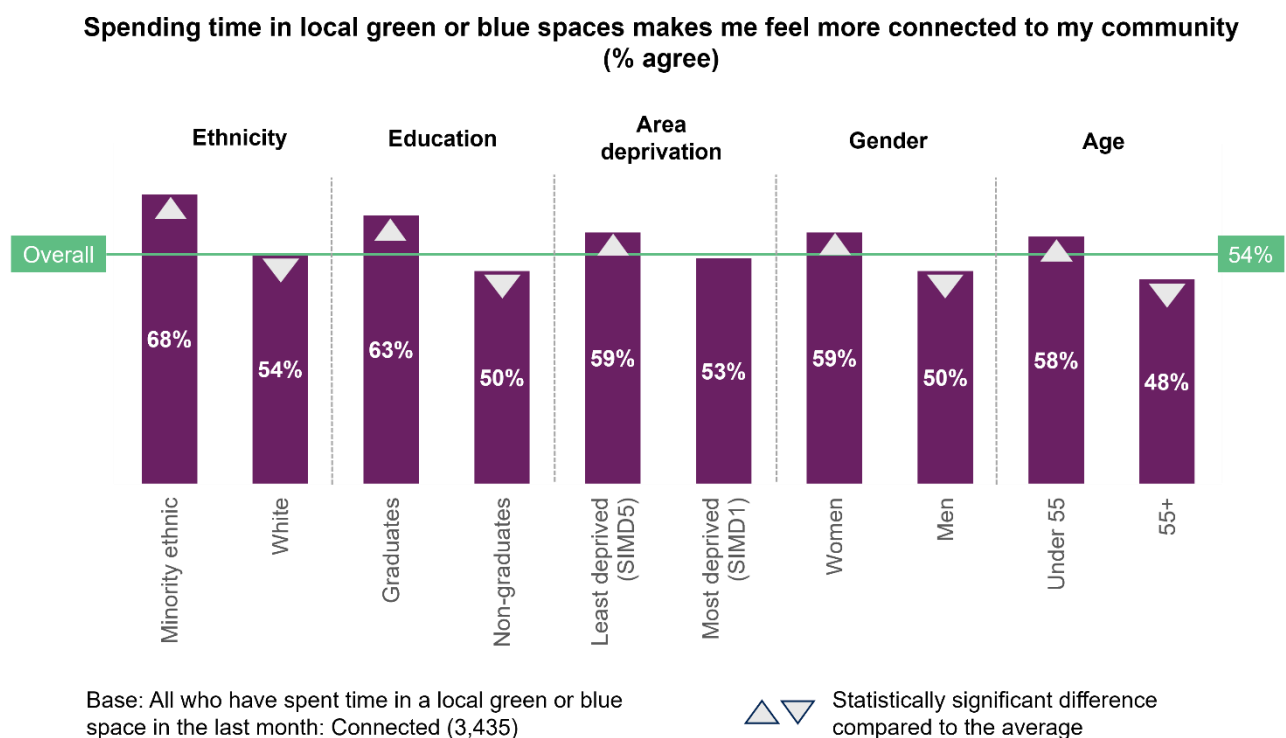
¹⁰ 69% of all respondents

¹¹ 43% of all respondents

¹² Ibid: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/inequalities-access-blue-coastal-space-scotland-research-report/pages/6/>

The same groups – graduates, those living in the least deprived areas of Scotland and higher-income households – were also more likely than average to say that spending time in nature makes them more connected to their community. Minority ethnic respondents, women, those aged under 55 and those who knew at least a fair bit about climate change were also more likely to agree with the statement than respondents overall (Figure 9.4).

Figure 9.4: Subgroup differences on whether spending time in green/blue spaces makes respondents feel more connected to their community

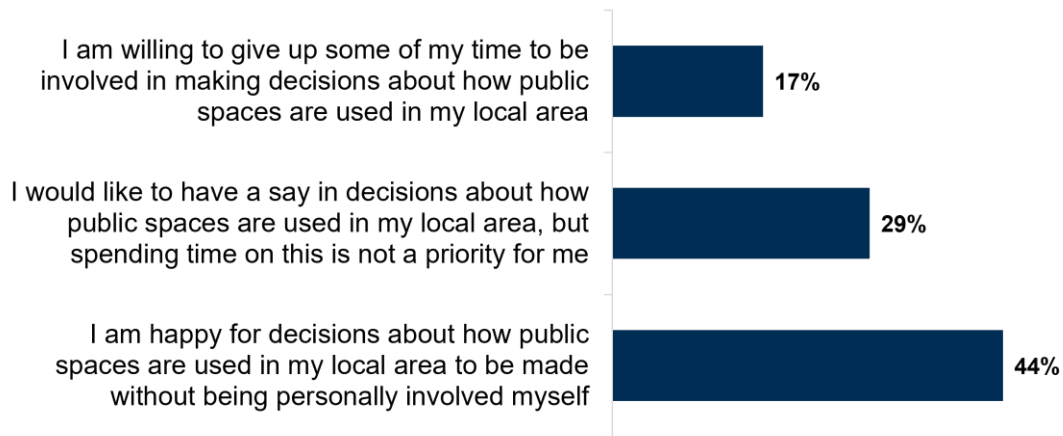


9.4 Involvement in decision making about local public spaces

Levels of actual and desired involvement in decision making about local public spaces were very similar to levels of actual and desired involvement in decision making about local transport issues (see [Chapter 6](#)). Around one in six respondents (17%) said that they were willing to give up some of their time to be involved in decision making about how public spaces are used in their local area. A further 29% said that although they would like to have a say in these decisions, spending time on this was not a priority for them. Over four in ten (44%) said they were happy for such decisions to be made without being personally involved themselves (Figure 9.5).

Figure 9.5: Willingness to be involved in decision making about local public spaces

Q. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

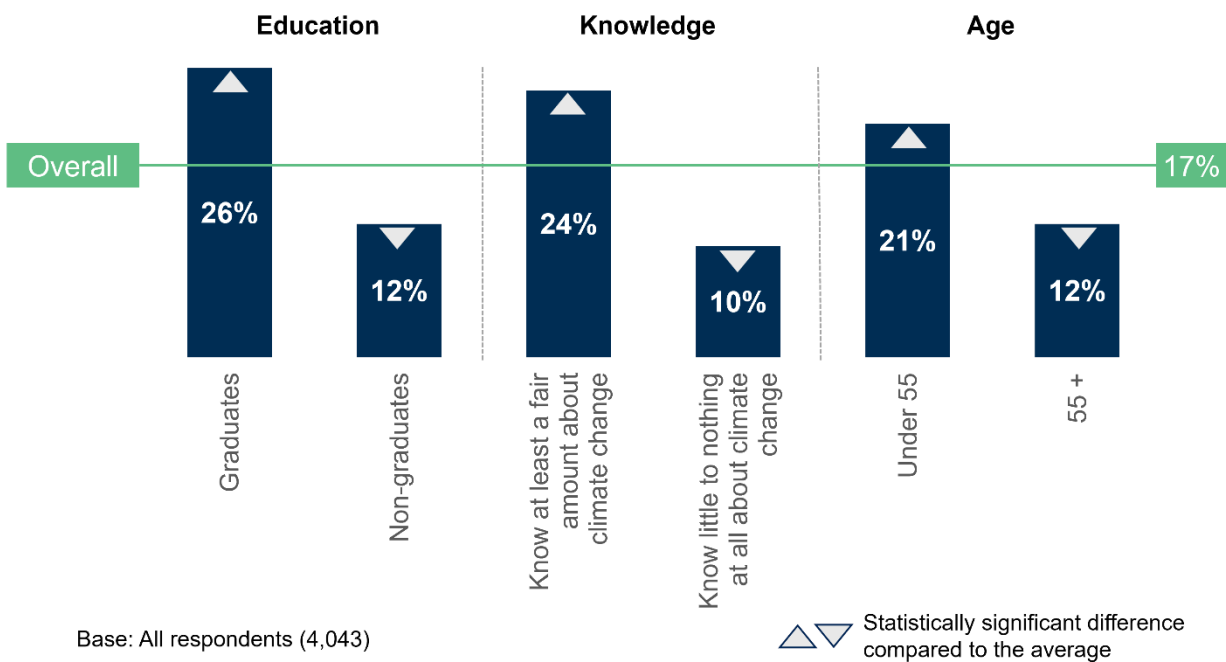


Base: All respondents (4,043)

As shown in Figure 9.6, those more willing to give up their time to be involved in decision making about local public spaces included graduates, those who knew at least a fair amount about climate change and respondents aged under 55.

Figure 9.6: Willingness to give up time to be involved in decision making about public spaces – differences by subgroup

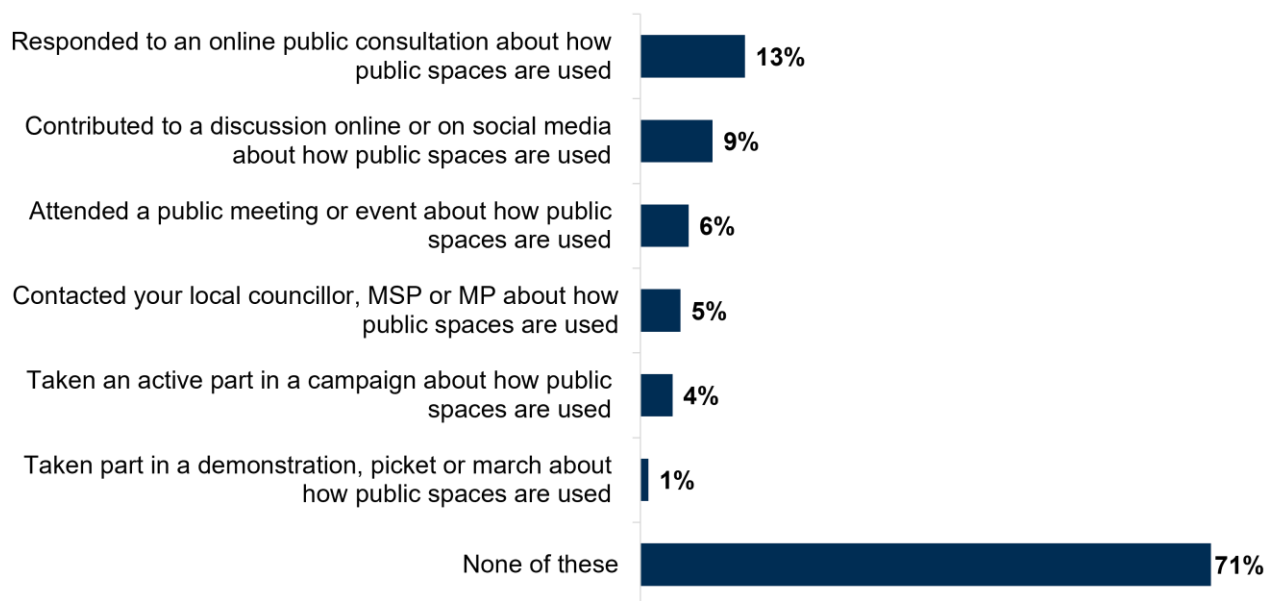
% willing to give up time to be involved in making decisions about public spaces



Just over one in five respondents (22%) said they had been involved in decisions about public spaces in their local area in the past 12 months. The most common way of doing so was participating online, either by responding to an online public consultation about how public spaces are used or contributing to an online/ social media discussion on the topic (mentioned by 13% and 9% respectively). Fewer reported having attended a public meeting or event (6%) or contacted their local councillor, MSP or MP (5%) about how local public spaces are used (Figure 9.7).

Figure 9.7: Involvement in decision making about local public spaces in the last 12 months

Q. Have you personally done any of the following in the past 12 months?



Base: All respondents (4,048)



Graduates were more likely than non-graduates to have been involved in decision making about local public spaces in the past year - 30% reported they had participated in at least one of the ways listed, compared to 18% of non-graduates). They were twice as likely as those without a degree to have responded to an online public consultation about public spaces (20%, compared to 9%) or attended a public meeting or event (8%, compared to 4%), while 13% of graduates reported they had contributed to online discussions on this topic compared to 8% of those without a degree.



Those aged under 55 were more likely than older respondents to have been involved in decisions about public spaces online, whether through contributing to online public consultations (15%, compared to 9% of those aged over 55) or online discussions on the topic (11%, compared to 7% of those aged over 55).



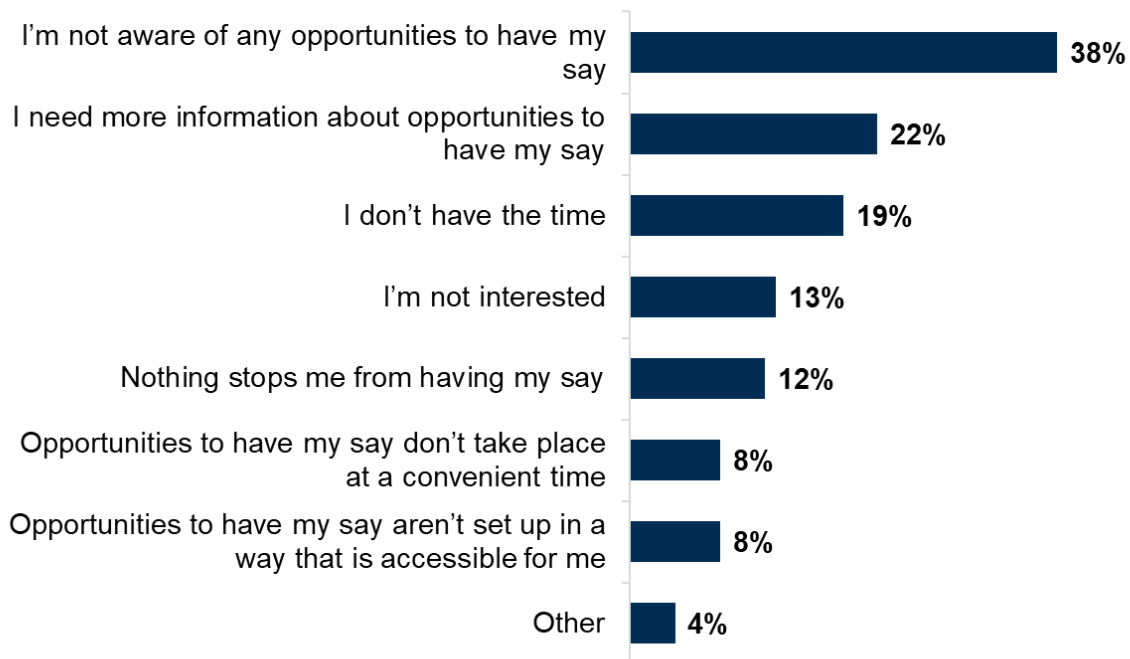
Those living in rural areas were twice as likely as urban residents to have attended a public meeting or event about how local public spaces are used (10%, compared to 5% of those living in urban areas).

While just one per cent of respondents had taken part in a demonstration, picket or march about how public spaces are used in the past year, minority ethnic respondents were more likely than White respondents to say they had done this (6%, compared to 1%).

The main perceived barrier to involvement in decisions about local public spaces was lack of awareness about existing opportunities to have their say, mentioned by 38% of respondents. Almost a quarter (22%) felt that they needed more information about opportunities to be able to participate. Lack of time (19%) or interest (13%) were also mentioned as barriers to getting involved, while 12% said that there is nothing that stops them from having their say (Figure 9.8).

Figure 9.8: Barriers to involvement in decision making about public spaces

Q. What, if anything, stops you from having your say in decisions about how public spaces are used in your local area?



Base: All respondents online (2,953)



Young people aged 16-34 were more likely than older age groups, to say that they lacked awareness of or information about opportunities to have their say. However, it should be noted that this group were also more likely than average to say they were not interested in being involved in decision making about public spaces (18% of young people, compared to 13% overall).



Women were more likely than men to say they were not aware of opportunities to be involved in decision making about local public spaces (42%, compared to 34% of men) while men were almost twice as likely than women to say they were not interested in being involved (17%, compared to 9%).



Graduates were more likely than those without a degree to report they had been involved in decision making about local public space use in the past year. However, they were also more likely than non-graduates to report that they were not aware of opportunities to have their say (44%, compared to 35% of non-graduates) or that they needed more information about ways to have their say (26%, compared to 21% of non-graduates) as barriers to involvement.

Minority ethnic respondents were more likely than White respondents to report they were not aware of opportunities to have their say (50%, compared to 37%). They were also twice as likely as White respondents to say that existing opportunities were not set up in a way that was accessible to them (14%, compared to 7%).

10. Impacts of the transition to net zero

This chapter looks at perceptions of the impact of Scotland's transition to net zero in the next five years (until 2030) and by 2045. It also looks at how the transition may affect respondents' jobs and the perceived consequences of any changes.

Key findings

- Respondents were more positive than negative about the impacts the transition to net zero would have on people's quality of life over the next five years, although over half (56%) thought it would make no difference or did not know. A third (32%) thought that the net zero transition would improve quality of life in five years' time, compared to 12% who expected it would make it worse.
- They were more positive about the likely impacts by 2045, with 44% expecting that the transition would have improved quality of life by that time, compared to 11% who thought it would have made it worse.
- Views on whether the transition would have a positive or negative impact on the availability of jobs were more mixed, with most saying it would make no difference or that they did not know.
- Two in five respondents (41%) thought their job had been or would be affected by the transition to net zero: 7% said their job had already changed, 29% expected their job would require changes in the future, and 4% believed their job would no longer exist.
- Respondents working in the transport and logistics sector were more likely to say their job would require changes in the future, while those in the oil and gas sector were much more likely to say their job would not exist in the future.

10.1 The perceived impacts of Scotland's transition to net zero

Respondents were asked about the impact they thought Scotland's transition to net zero would have on their local area, specifically in regard to people's quality of life and its impact on the availability of jobs.

Impact of net zero on people's quality of life

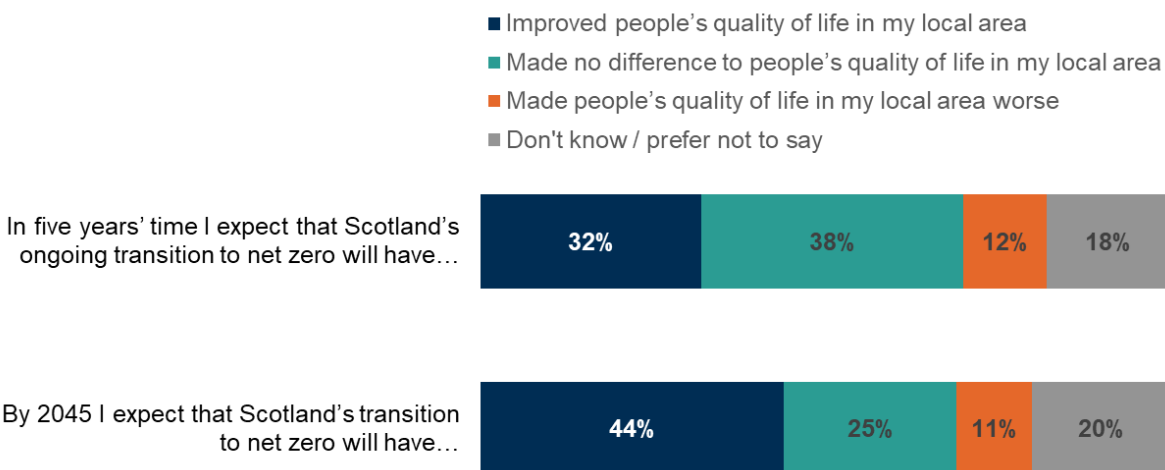
As shown in Figure 10.1, respondents' views on the impact that Scotland's transition to net zero would have on people's quality of life in their local area were more positive than negative.

A third (32%) thought that, in five years' time, it would improve people's quality of life, compared to one in ten (12%) who thought it would make it worse. However, 38% thought that it would make no difference to people's quality of life, while 18% said they did not know.

Respondents were more positive about the longer-term impacts of the transition to net zero. More than four in ten (44%) thought that by 2045 the transition would have improved people’s quality of life, compared to 11% who thought it would have made this worse. A quarter (25%) thought it would make no difference and 19% did not know.

Figure 10.1: Perceived impact of Scotland’s transition to net zero on people’s quality of life

Q. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

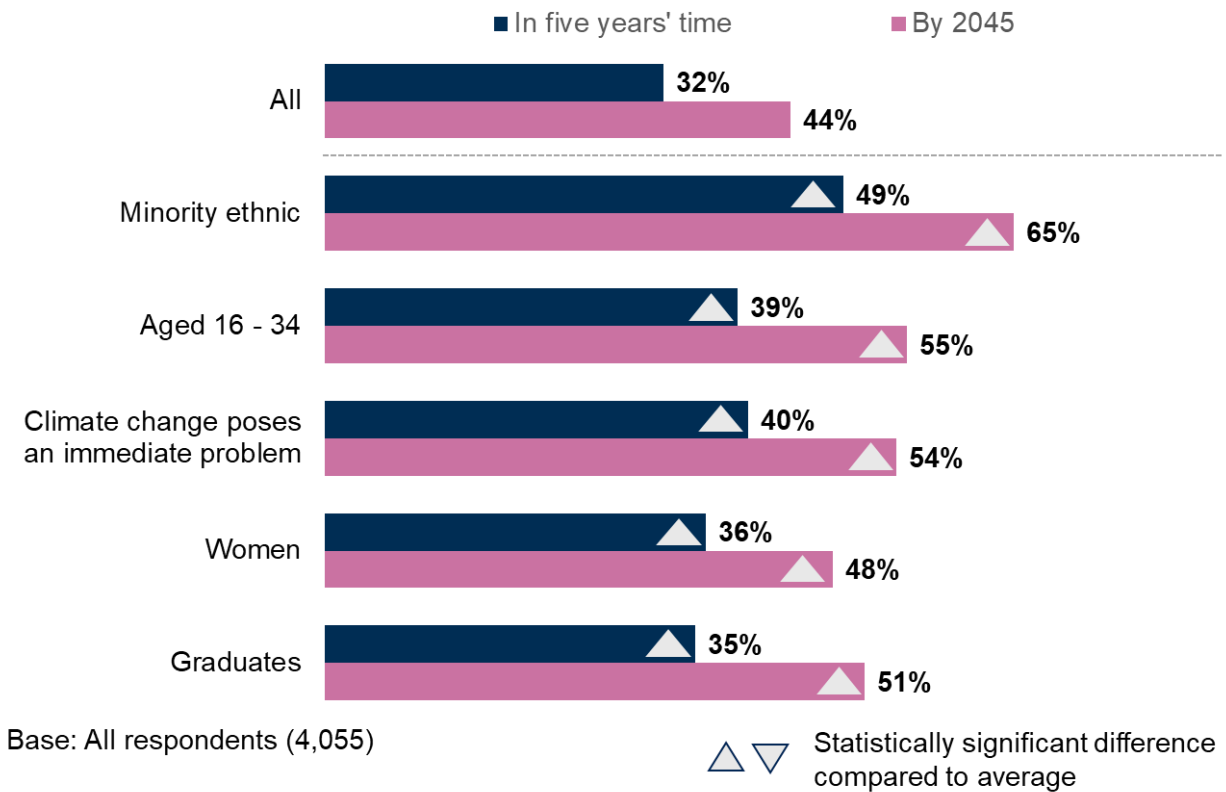


Base: All respondents (4,055)

Those more likely than average to say the transition to net zero would improve people’s quality of life, both in five years’ time and by 2045, included: respondents from minority ethnic backgrounds, young respondents aged 16 to 34, those who thought climate change poses an immediate problem, women and graduates (Figure 10.2).

Figure 10.2: Groups more likely to think Scotland’s transition to net zero will improve quality of life

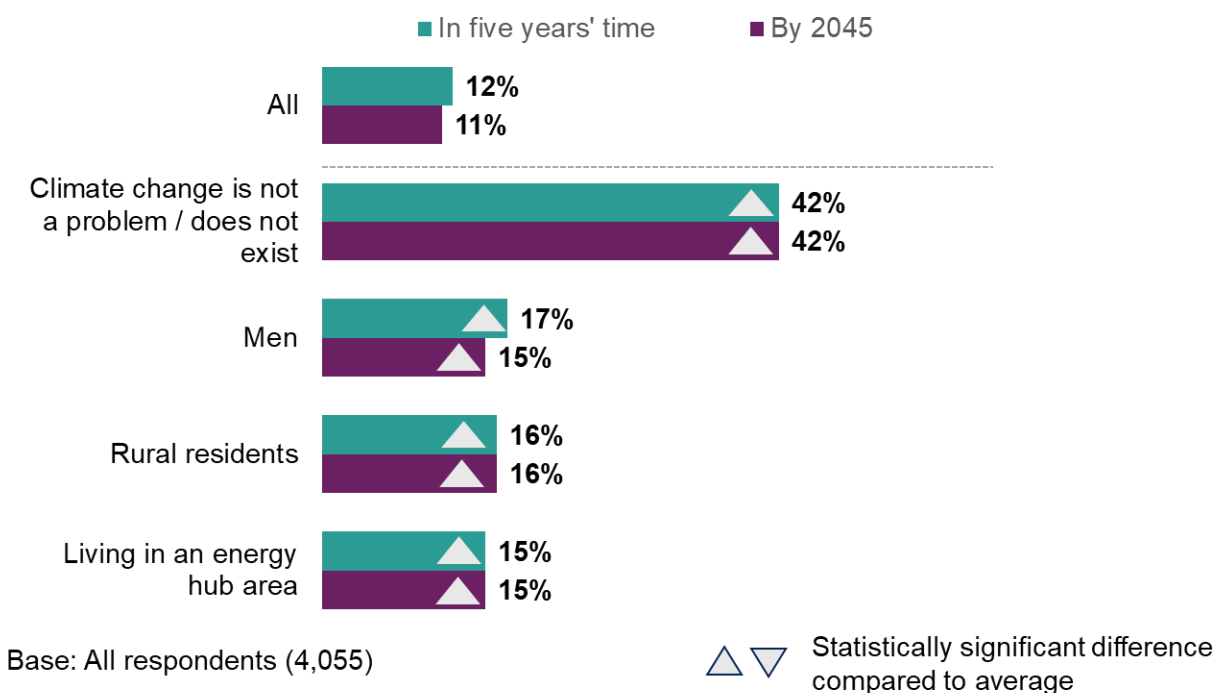
Q. I expect that Scotland’s ongoing transition to net zero will have improved people’s quality of life in my local area....



Meanwhile, those more likely than average to say it would make people’s quality of life worse included: those who thought climate change is not a problem or does not exist, men, and those living in rural or energy hub areas (Figure 10.3).

Figure 10.3: Groups more likely to think Scotland’s transition to net zero will make quality of life worse

Q. I expect that Scotland’s ongoing transition to net zero will have made people’s quality of life in my local area worse....



Those more likely than average to say they did not know if it would make a difference to quality of life were respondents who knew a little or nothing at all about climate change, women and respondents aged 35 and over.

Those who said they knew at least a fair amount about climate change were more likely to have a view either way on whether people’s quality of life would improve or get worse as a result of the net zero transition – 35% thought it would improve in the next five years (compared to 32% overall) and 48% thought it would improve by 2045 (compared to 44% overall). Meanwhile 15% of this group thought people’s quality of life would get worse in five years’ time (compared to 12% overall) and 13% thought it would be worse by 2045 (compared to 11% overall).

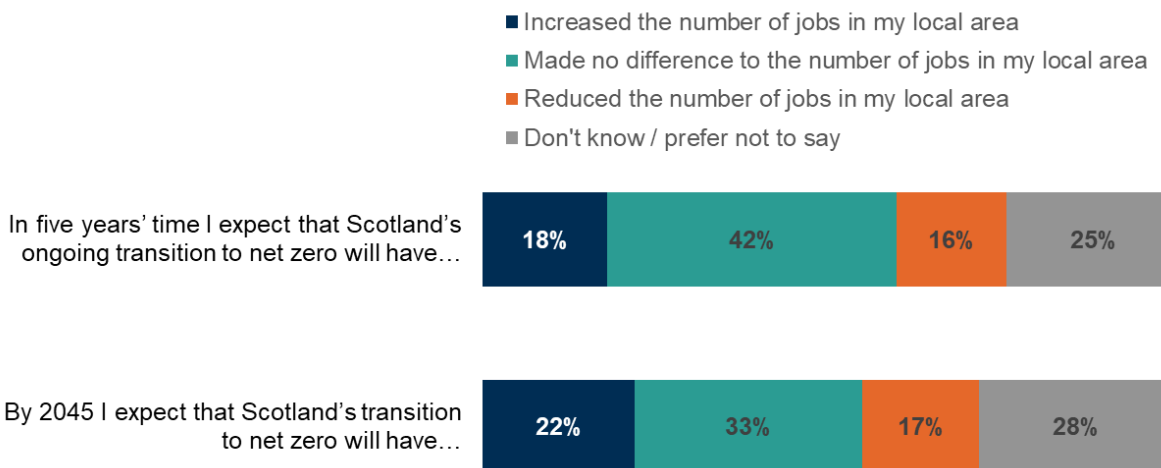
Impact of net zero on the availability of jobs

Views on whether the transition to net zero would have a positive or negative impact on the availability of jobs across Scotland were mixed. Almost one in five respondents (18%) thought the transition to net zero would increase the number of jobs in their local area in five years’ time, while 16% thought it would reduce the number of jobs. The remainder, a majority, said it would make no difference (42%) or that they did not know (25%) (Figure 10.4).

A similar pattern was found when respondents were asked about the impact of Scotland's net zero transition on the availability of jobs in their local area by 2045 – 22% thought the number of jobs would increase and 17% thought this would reduce, while 33% thought it would make no difference and 28% did not know.

Figure 10.4 Perceived impact of net zero on the availability of jobs

Q. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?



Base: All respondents: 5 years' time (4,064); by 2045 (4,054)

The groups most likely to think the transition to net zero would increase or reduce the number of jobs in their local area, both in five years' time and by 2045, largely correspond to those who thought it would improve or worsen people's quality of life, discussed earlier in this chapter.

Impact of net zero on the availability of jobs by job sector

Respondents working in the energy and utilities sector (excluding oil and gas) and in retail or sales were more likely than average to say that the transition to net zero would increase the number of jobs in their local area, both in five years' time and by 2045. In contrast, those working in the oil and gas and engineering sectors were more likely than average to say it would reduce the number of jobs.

Among those working in energy and utilities (excluding oil and gas), almost half (45%) thought the number of jobs in their local area would increase in five years' time as a result of the transition to net zero (compared to 18% overall) and 44% expected they would increase by 2045 (compared to 22%). Three in ten (30%) of those working in retail or sales thought the number of jobs would increase in five years' time and 36% thought they would increase by 2045.

Those working in health were more likely than average to say the transition to net zero would increase the number of jobs in their area in five years' time (23%, compared to 18% overall), while those working in education were more likely than average to say the number of jobs would increase by 2045 (27%, compared to 22% overall).

Meanwhile, among those working in oil and gas, two thirds (67%) expected the number of jobs in their local area to have reduced in five years' time (compared to 16% overall) with a similar proportion (65%) expecting this would happen by 2045 (compared to 17%). Almost a quarter (24%) of those working in engineering thought the number of jobs in their local area would have reduced in five years' time due to the net zero transition, and 27% thought this would happen by 2045.

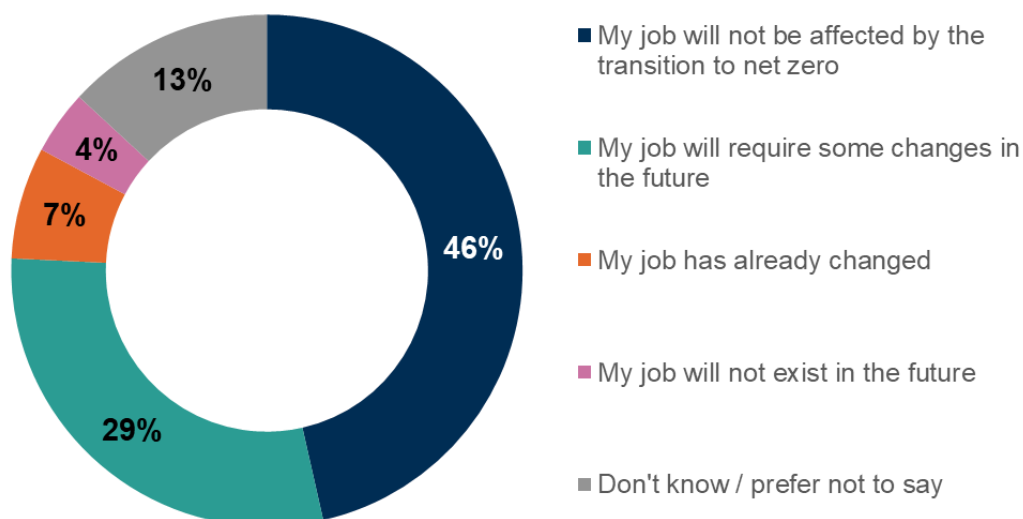
Those working in agriculture were also more likely than average to say that the transition to net zero would reduce the number of jobs in their local area by 2045 (30%, compared to 17% overall).

10.2 The impact of the transition to net zero on employment

Respondents working either full-time or part-time were asked if they expected Scotland's transition to net zero to affect their job. Almost half (46%) thought their job would not be affected, while 29% said it would require changes in the future (Figure 10.5). Seven per cent said their job had already changed and 4% thought it would not exist in the future. Just over one in ten (13%) did not know if their job would be affected.

Figure 10.5: Perceived future impact of net zero on employment

Q: To what extent, if at all, do you expect Scotland's transition to net zero to affect your job?



Base: All working full-time or part-time (1,835)

Those more likely than average to say their job would not be affected in the future by the transition to net zero included those with household incomes of £52,000 and above (50%, compared to 46% overall) and graduates (49%).

Those with household incomes of less than £52,000 were more likely than average to say that their jobs would require some changes in the future (32%, compared to 29%).

In terms of job sector, respondents working in the transport and logistics sector and men were more likely than average to say their job would require changes in the future (51% and 32% respectively, compared to 29% overall), while those working in agriculture or construction were more likely than average to say their job had already changed (20% and 18% respectively, compared to 7% overall).

Those employed in the oil and gas sector were particularly likely to think their jobs were at risk due to the transition to net zero. Almost half (47%) of this group expected their job would not exist in the future, compared to just 4% overall. Although not to the same degree as those in the oil and gas sector, those working in agriculture (10%), living in energy hub areas (7%) and men (7%) were also more likely than average to say their job would not exist.

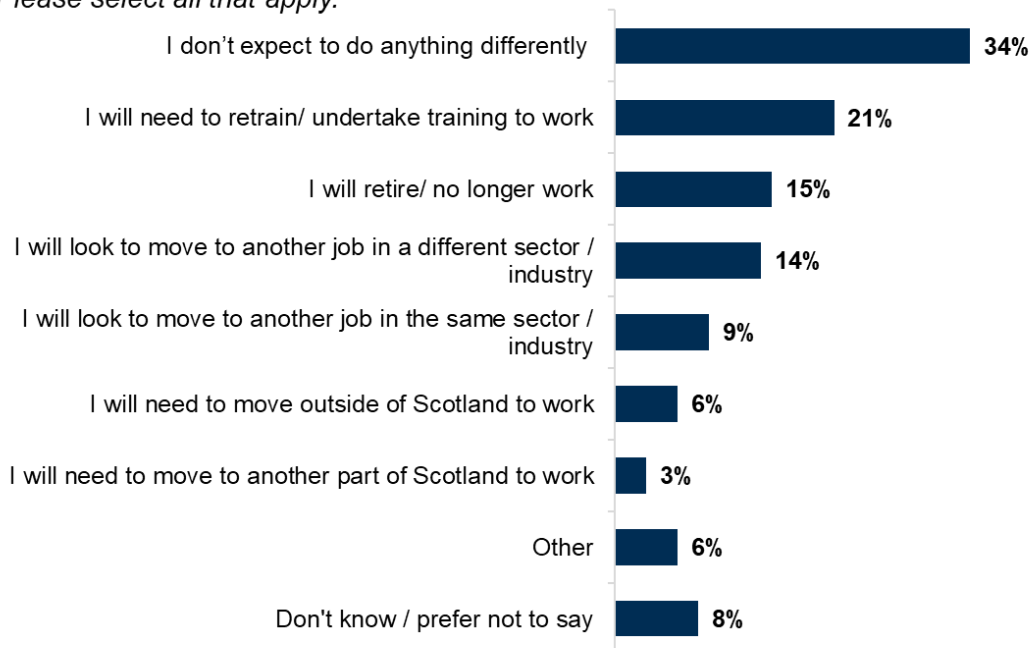
Perceived consequences of job changes as a result of the transition to net zero

Those respondents whose job had already changed or expected it would change in the future due to the transition to net zero (including those who said their job would no longer exist) were asked what they personally expected to do as a result, if anything.

While a third (34%) said they would not have to do anything differently as a result of any changes, around six in ten (58%) said they expected the changes would have an impact in relation to their job. For example, one in five (21%) thought they would have to retrain or undertake training in order to work in the future. Fifteen per cent said they would retire or no longer work and 14% said they would have to look for another job in a different sector or industry (Figure 10.6).

Figure 10.6: Perceived consequences of job changes

Q. What do you personally expect to do as a result of these changes in relation to your job?
Please select all that apply.



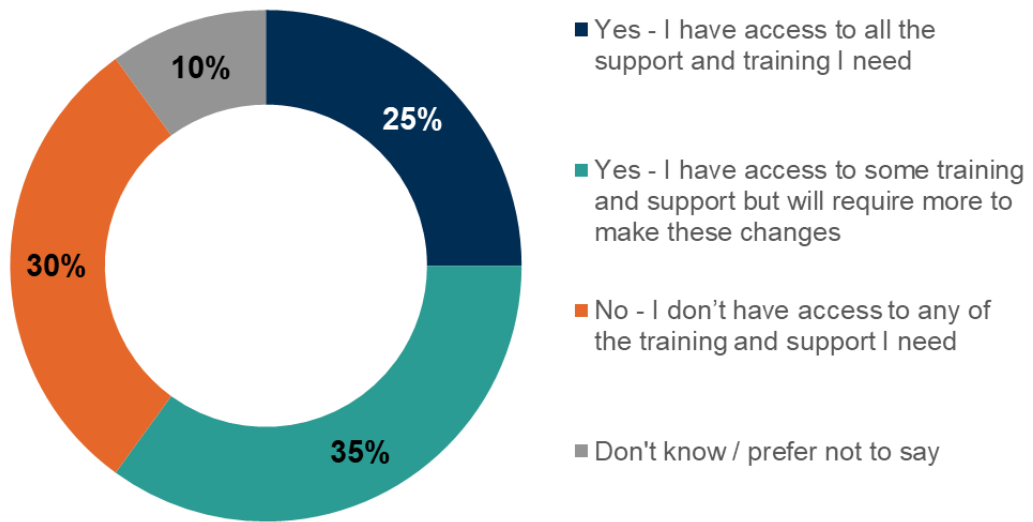
Base: All whose job will be affected by the transition to net zero (731)

Those working in the oil and gas sector or living in energy hub areas were more likely than average to say they would need to look for work in a different sector or industry (55% and 25%, respectively, compared to 14% overall) or that they would need to move outside of Scotland in order to work (38% and 11%, compared to 6%).

To assess the future support needs of those who said they would need to find work in a different sector, retrain, or move to another part of Scotland, this group were asked if they felt they had access to the support they needed to help them make these changes. As shown in Figure 10.7, most respondents (60%) said they had access to training and support, though 35% said they would require more to make the changes needed. Three in ten (30%) said they did not have access to any of the training and support they needed.

Figure 10.7: Access to support and training to make changes to job

Q: Do you currently have access to the support and training you would need to make these changes in relation to your job?



Base: All whose job will be affected by the transition to net zero (197)

Graduates were more likely than non-graduates to say they had access to all the support and training they needed (33%, compared to 20%). There were no significant differences by job sector.

Tell us what you think

We are always interested to hear from our users about how our statistics are used, and how they can be improved.

Enquiries

For enquiries about this publication please contact:

Emily Creamer
Office of the Chief Economic Adviser
E-mail: emily.creamer@gov.scot

For general enquiries about Scottish Government statistics please contact:

Office of the Chief Statistician
e-mail: statistics.enquiries@gov.scot

More information about Scottish Government statistics is available on the [Scottish Government website](#).

Join our mailing list

If you would like to receive notifications about statistical publications, or find out about consultations on our statistics please join the [ScotStat mailing list](#).

Future publications

Details of future publications can be found on our [forthcoming publications](#) page.

An Official Statistics Publication for Scotland

These statistics are official statistics. Official statistics are statistics that are produced by crown bodies, those acting on behalf of crown bodies, or those specified in statutory orders, as defined in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007.

Scottish Government statistics are regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics that all producers of official statistics should adhere to.

More information about Scottish Government statistics is available on the Scottish Government website.