CASSC – 8 January 2020 - Fear of Crime and its Effect on Cardiff Communities

INTRODUCTION

The following paper outlines the findings from two key surveys carried out during 2019, namely;

- Ask Cardiff Residents Survey 2019
- Child Friendly City Survey of children and young people

Both surveys asked a number of community safety related questions, particularly regarding perceptions of crime in Cardiff. Further details are set out below.

Ask Cardiff 2019

Introduction

Ask Cardiff is an annual survey asking residents to give their views on Council services. This survey asks a range of questions on public services and service delivery, quality of life and wellbeing in our communities.

The results of this survey, along with feedback from a programme of consultation and engagement events held throughout the year, helps inform the Council's policy and service priorities in its Corporate Plan and annual budget.

Methodology

The 2019 Ask Cardiff survey was live from 16th September to 24th November 2019

In previous years, younger people (16-24 year olds), minority ethnic groups and those people resident in the south and the east of the city have been underrepresented in consultation and survey responses.

To promote a more representative response rate to this year's survey, the following methods were used to reach these communities:

a) Email
The survey was promoted via email to:

- Organisations known to work with seldom heard groups
- Cardiff Youth Council
- Schools, Sixth forms and Colleges

b) Internet/intranet

The survey was hosted on the Council website, Education Service Level Agreement website, Cardiff Family Advice & Support and promoted to Council employees via DigiGov, Intranet and Staff Information.

Versions of the survey were made available via the Council's website and could be accessed at libraries / Hubs and other Community buildings across the City.

c) Social media

The survey was promoted via Facebook and Twitter throughout the consultation period.
Social media 'boosts' were made to selected demographics with a focus on people aged under 35 and those residing in the south of the city.

d) Face to face, flyers

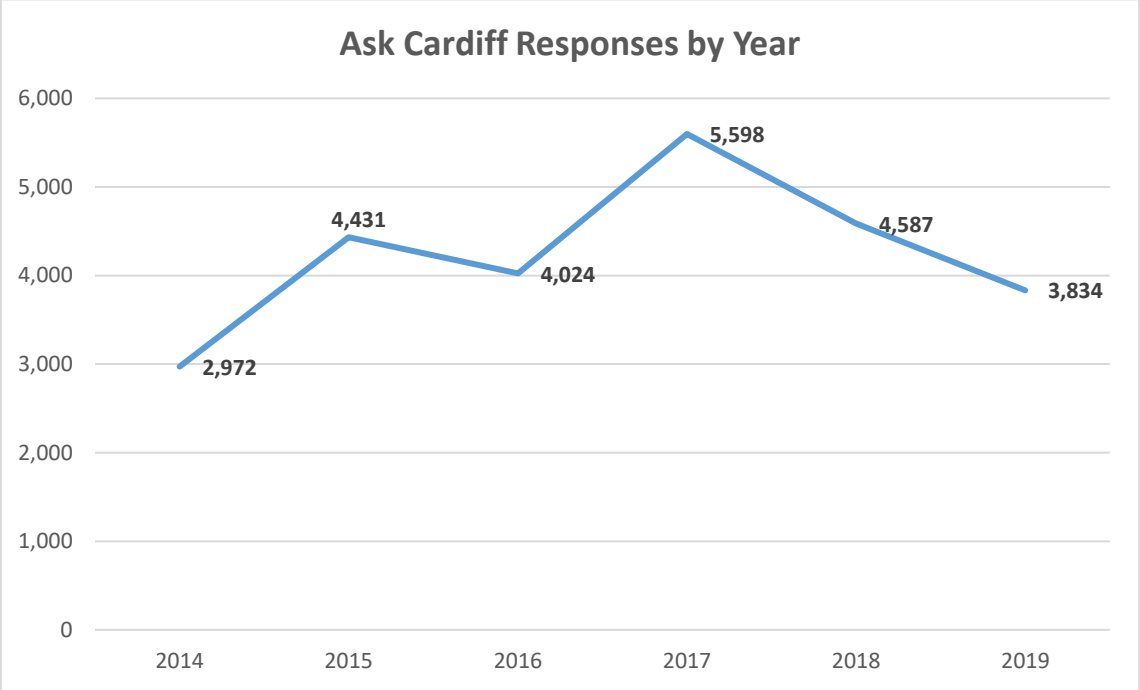
- Friends and Family (FAN) groups were used to engage with members of ethnic minority groups.
- Drop in sessions were held at each Hub across the City where Cardiff Research Centre staff were on hand to discuss any issues people had with the survey and to offer support in completing the survey
- Flyers were given to local business centres and GP surgeries

e) Additional Work

- The survey was promoted via the UHB Newsletter
- Community Councils across Cardiff were sent flyers / posters and encouraged to promote the survey
- Posters were sent out to allotment groups and plot holders across the City
- Flyers / Posters were displayed in the Cardiff Indoor Market
- An Ask Cardiff Screensaver promoting the survey was displayed on all council PCs and laptops

Response

There were 3,834 responses to the 2019 Ask Cardiff Survey.



Ask Cardiff 2019 Summary Findings

32.1% of all respondents agree that the police and other local public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behavior and crime in their area, compared with 45.9% who disagree. *(Reference Chart 1)*

Agreement with this statement was highest amongst Under35s (37.3%) and lowest amongst those living in the Southern Arc [1](28.5%) *(Reference Chart 1a)*

Respondents living in the most deprived areas of the city felt less safe than those in the least deprived areas. *(Reference Chart 1b)*

Overall Cardiff Residents felt most safe when: *(Reference Chart 2)*

- at home in the daylight (97.4%)
- walking in their neighbourhood in the daylight (94.8%)
- travelling by bus in the daylight (94.9%)

Overall Cardiff Residents felt least safe when: *(Reference Chart 2)*

- cycling in Cardiff after dark (24.8%)
- walking in the city centre after dark (36.2%)
- cycling in Cardiff in the day (58.4%)

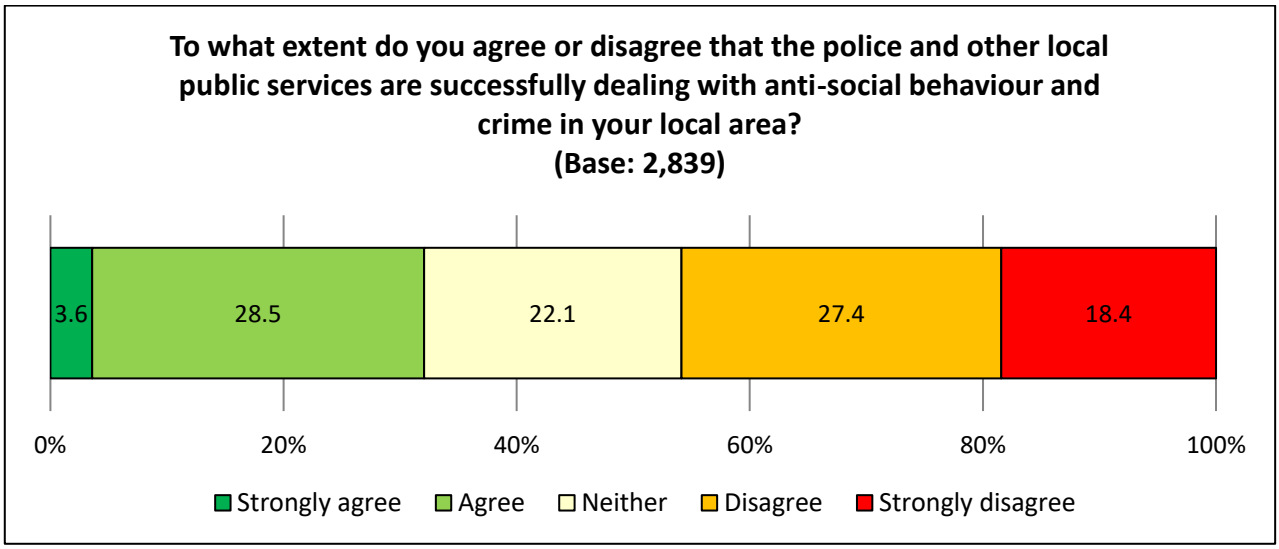
There is a correlation with residents in the more deprived areas of the city feeling less safe at home both in daylight and after dark *(Reference Charts 2b, 2d)*, and when walking in their neighbourhood in daylight and after dark *(Reference Charts 2g, 2i).*

Those living in the more deprived areas were also less likely to feel safe when travelling by bus both in daylight and after dark than residents in the least deprived areas (*Reference Charts 2q, 2s).*

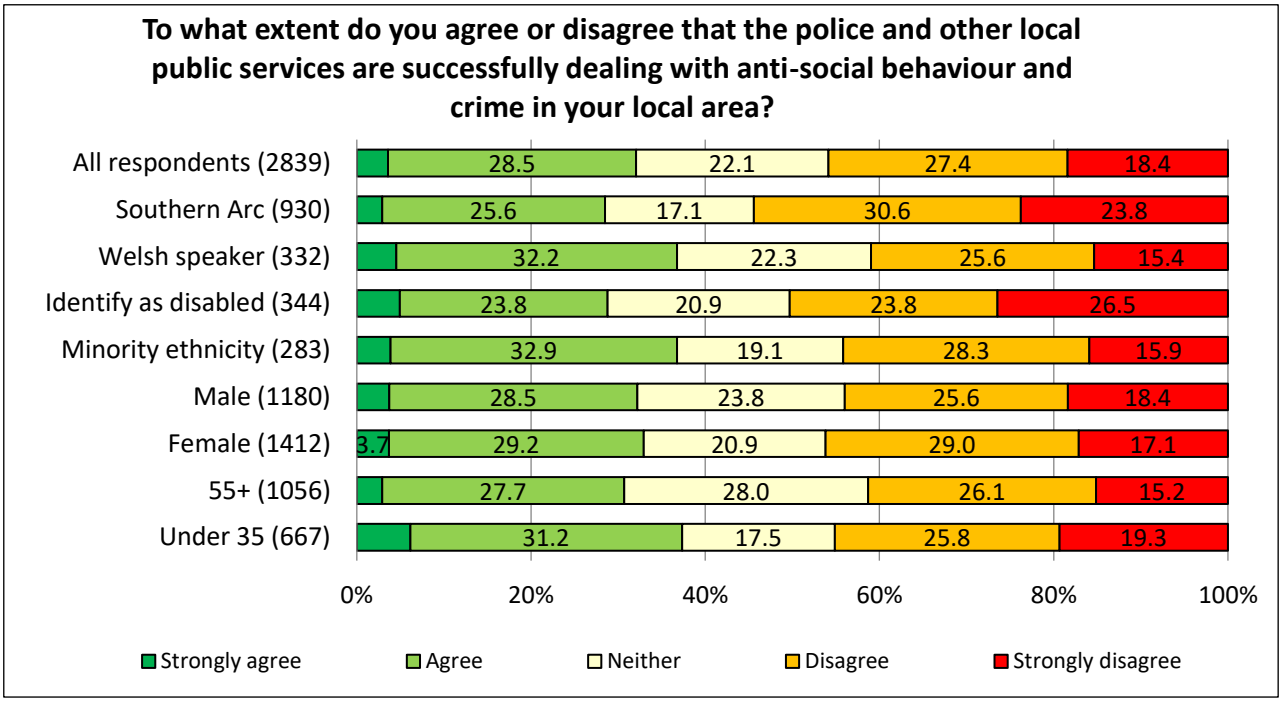
Trend data shows residents feel less safe than at any point over the past 6 years when at home in the daylight or after dark *(Reference Chart 2e)*, walking in their neighbourhood in the daylight or after dark *(Reference Chart 2j)*, walking in the city centre in the daylight or after dark *(Reference Chart 2o)*, or when cycling in Cardiff in the daylight or after dark *(Reference Chart 2y)*.

[1] Southern Arc' of Cardiff comprises the following electoral divisions: Adamsdown, Butetown, Caerau, Canton, Ely, Grangetown, Llanrumney, Riverside, Rumney, Splott, Trowbridge.

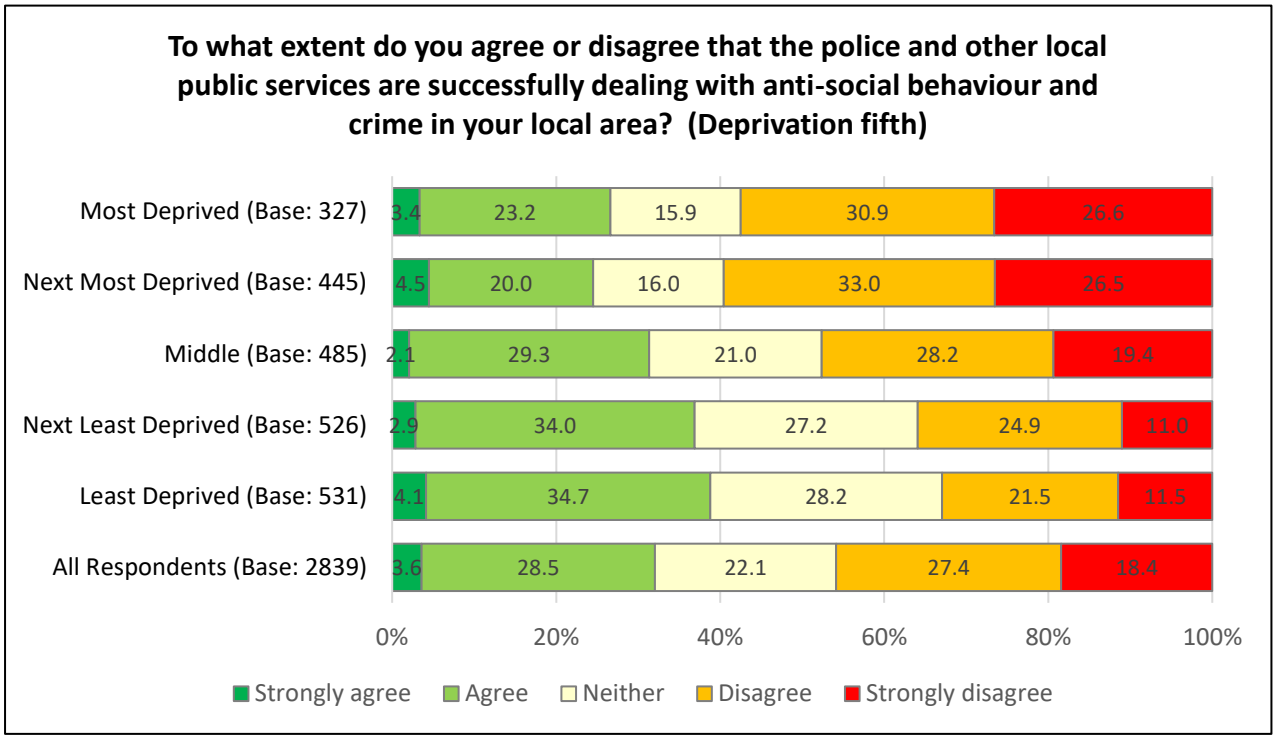
1.


To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police and other local public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in your local area?
(Base: 2,839)
3.6
28.5
22.1
27.4
18.4
0%
20%
40%
60%
80%
100%
Strongly agree
Agree
Neither
Disagree
Strongly disagree

1a.


To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police and other local public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in your local area?
All respondents (2839) 28.5 22.1 27.4 18.4
Southern Arc (930) 25.6 17.1 30.6 23.8
Welsh speaker (332) 32.2 22.3 25.6 15.4
Identify as disabled (344) 23.8 20.9 23.8 26.5
Minority ethnicity (283) 32.9 19.1 28.3 15.9
Male (1180) 28.5 23.8 25.6 18.4
Female (1412) 3.7 29.2 20.9 29.0 17.1
55+ (1056) 27.7 28.0 26.1 15.2
Under 35 (667) 31.2 17.5 25.8 19.3
0%
20%
40%
60%
80%
100%
Strongly agree
Agree
Neither
Disagree
Strongly disagree

1b.



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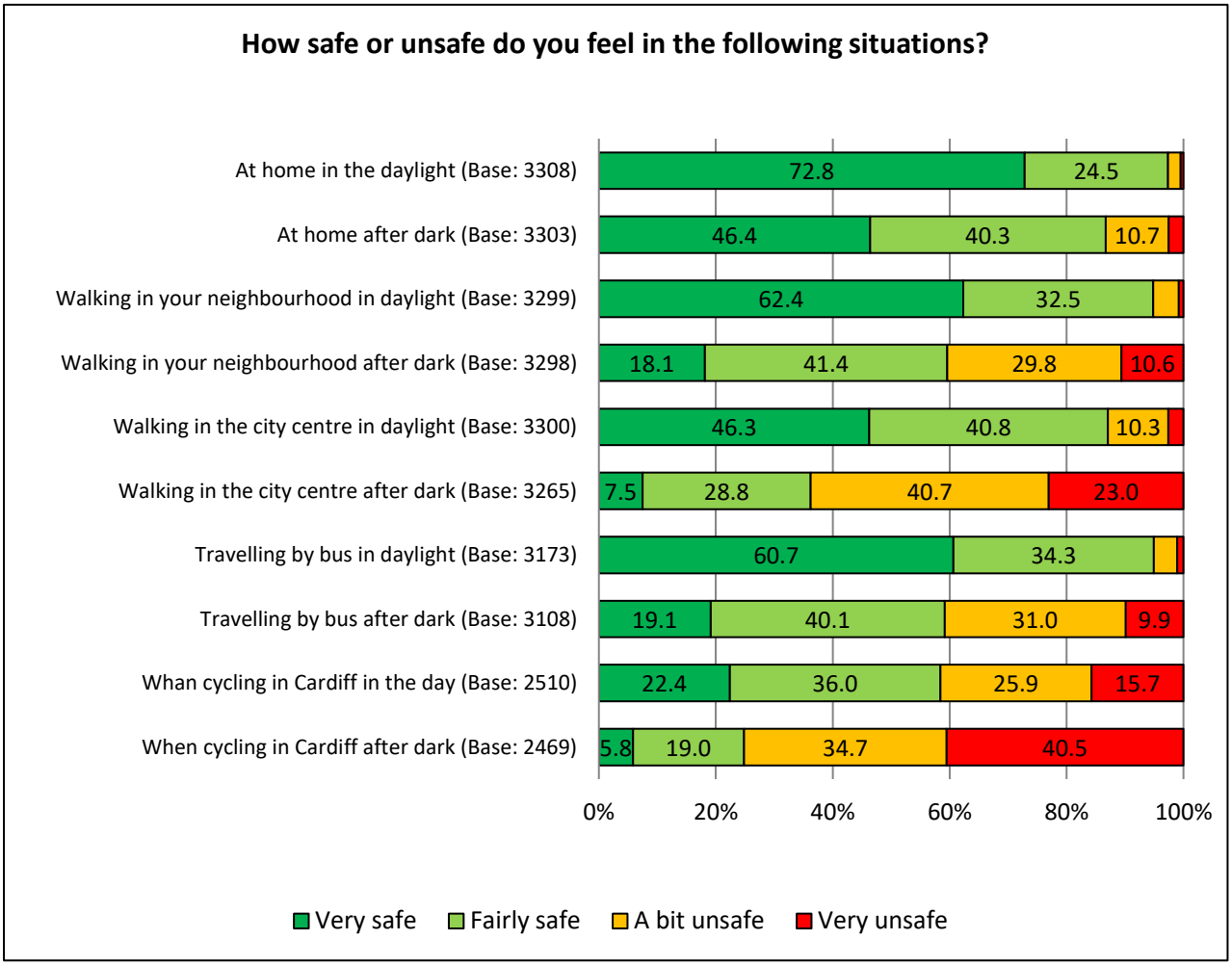
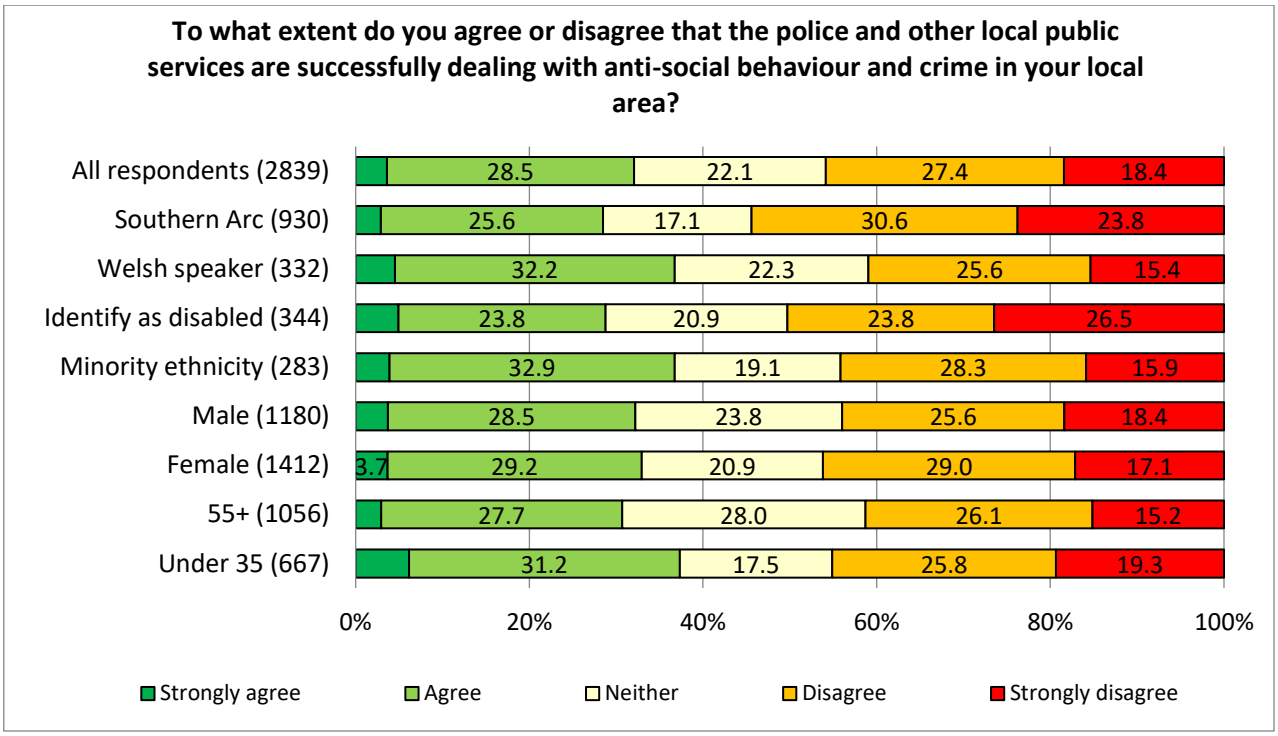


NB:- The Chart above contains the overall data for each of the situations examined, with a further breakdown by deprivation and demographic below.

2a.

At Home in the Daylight



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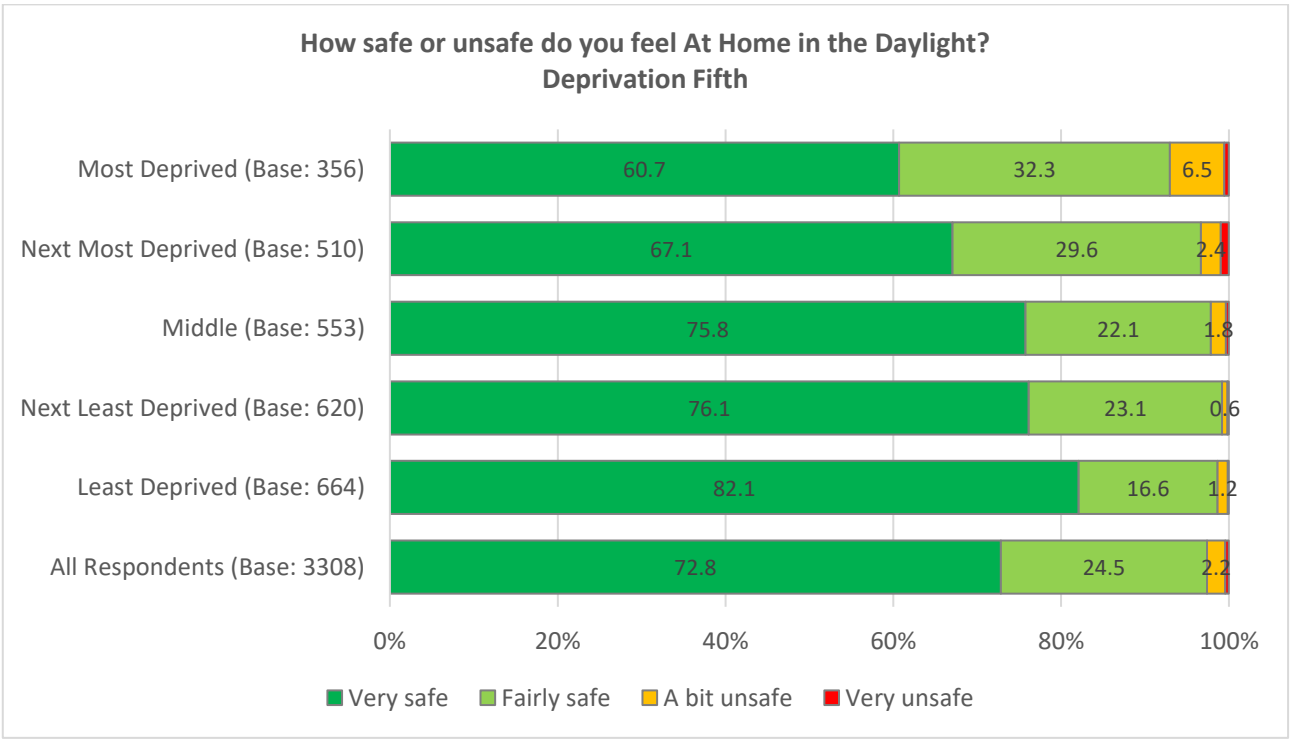

At home in the Dark

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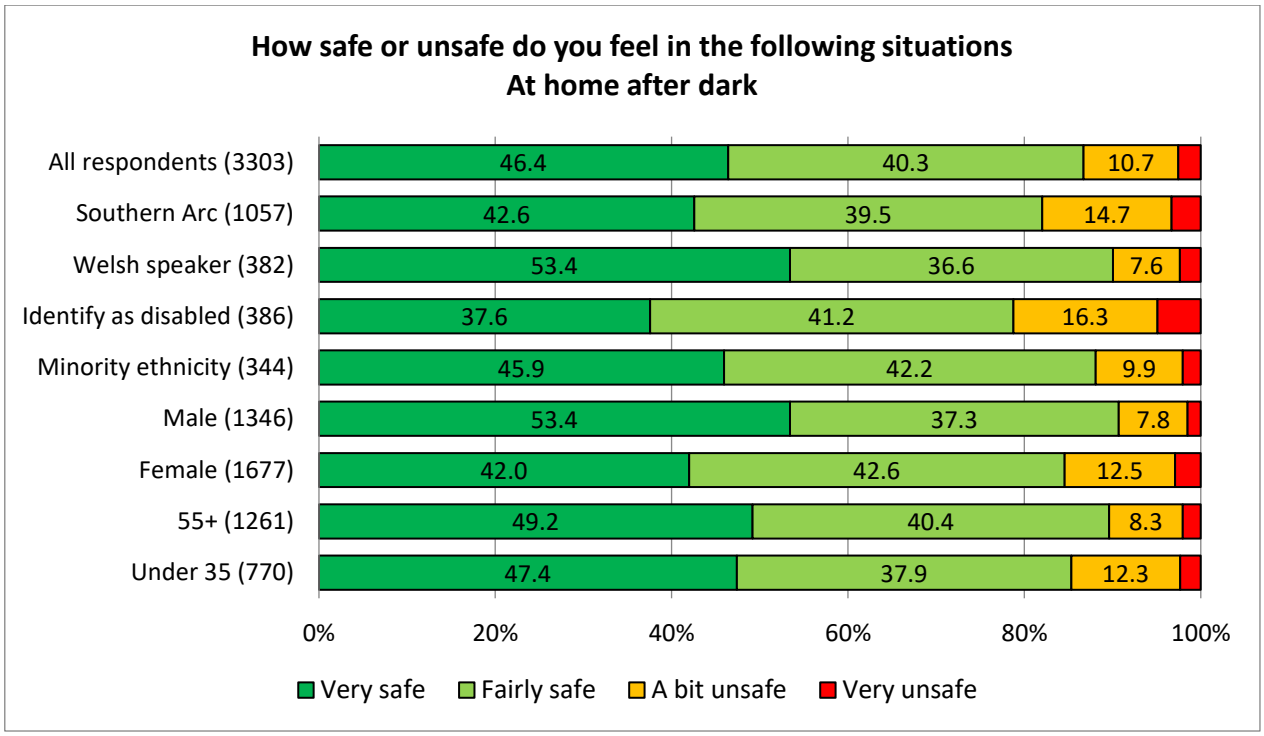

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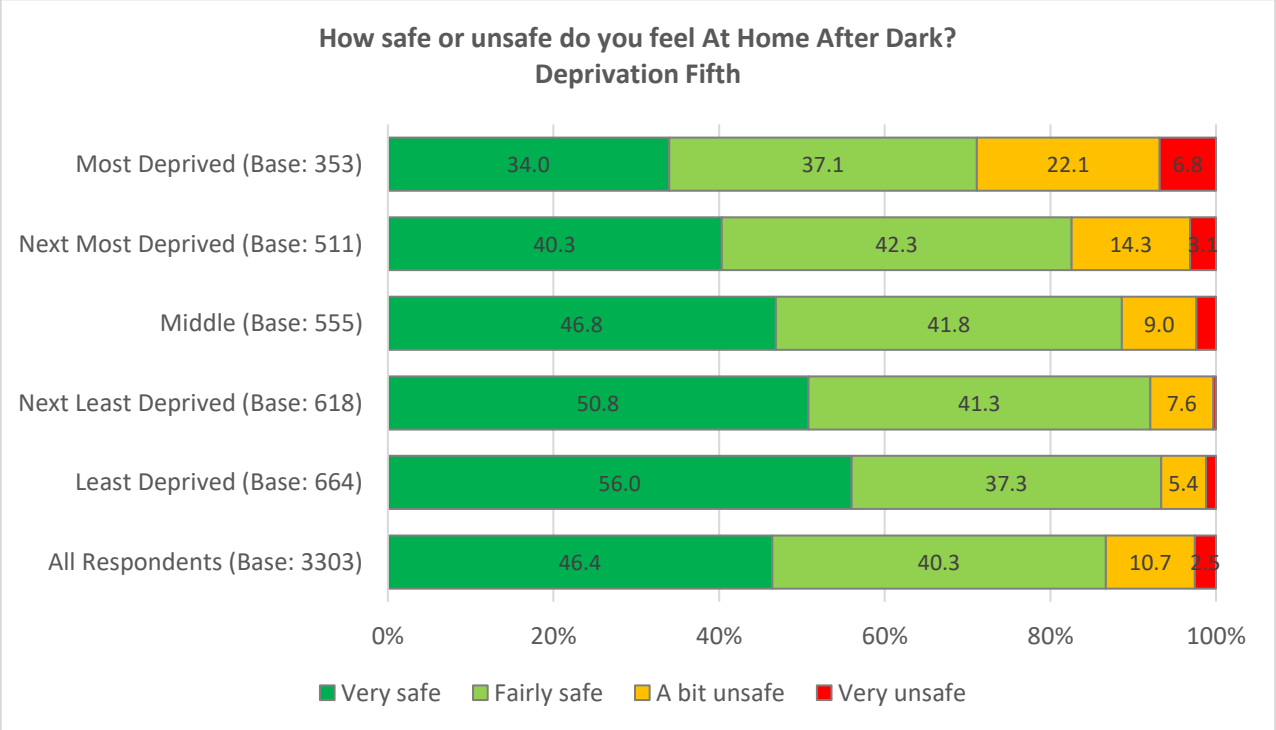

At Home Trend Data

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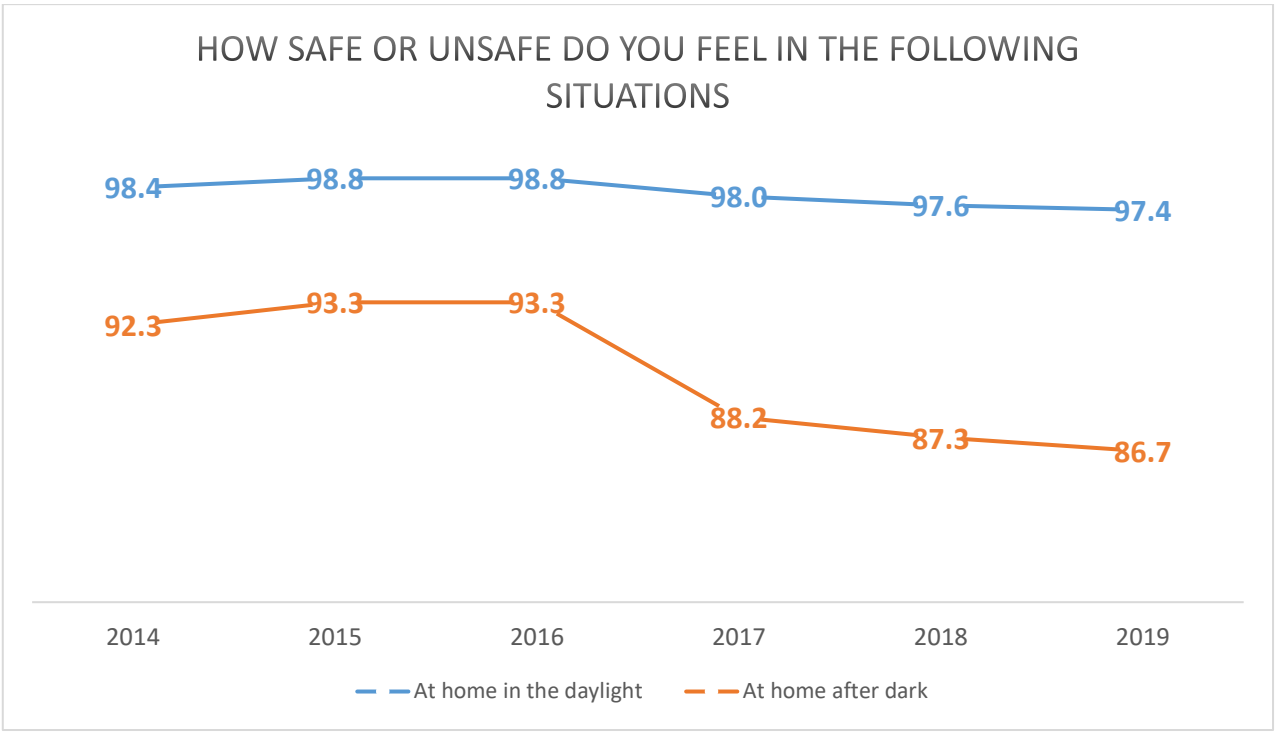


NB: - The chart above depicts the feeling of safety 'Very' and 'Fairly' combined for all respondents At home in the daylight and after dark, for the period 2014-2019.

Respondents who indicated that they felt 'a bit unsafe' or 'very unsafe' at their home either in the daylight or after dark were prompted to provide comments regarding their response. 282 respondents provided comments, which have been grouped into fourteen thematic areas. A sample of comments by theme is provided in the table below.

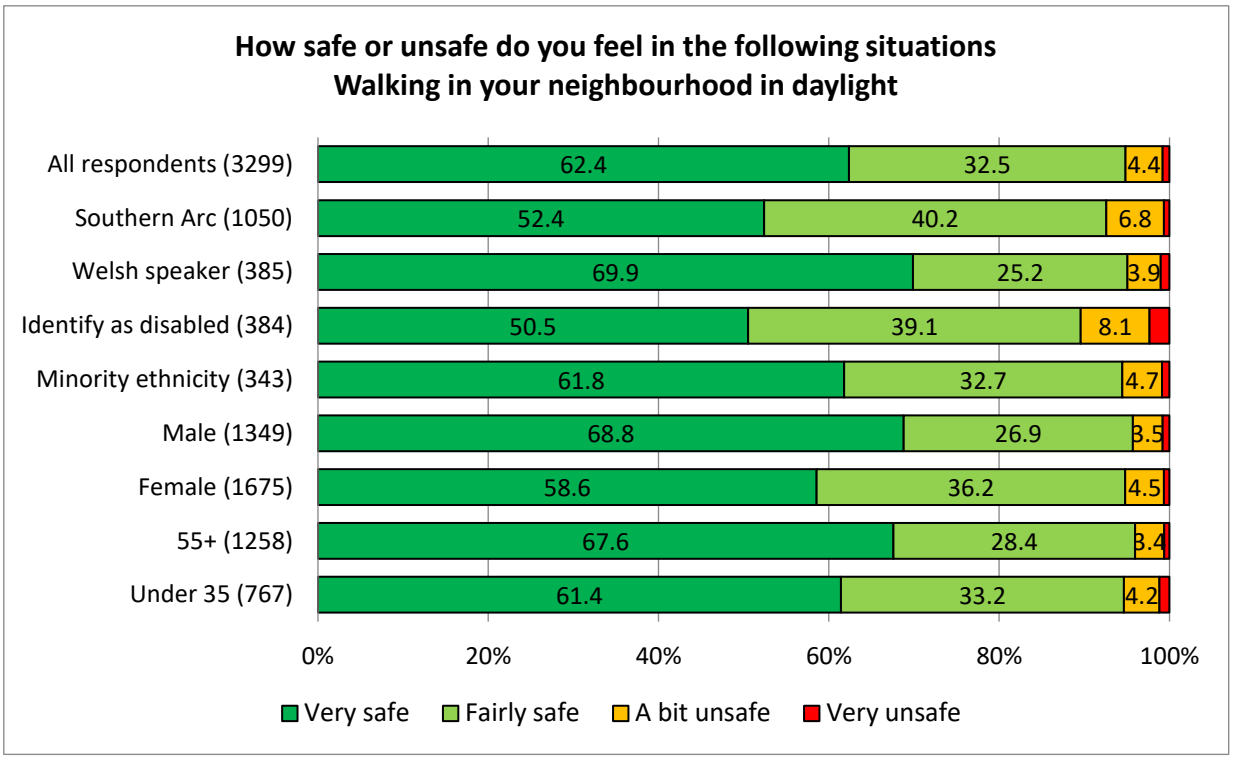
Table 1

Theme	No	%	Example comments
Anti-social behaviour	**101**	**35.8**	• Antisocial behaviour in the streets, • Antisocial behaviour in my neighbourhood. • Lots of anti-social behaviour in my local area. • Anti-social neighbours.
Fear/Risk of burglary	**70**	**24.8**	• Risk of burglary. • We have been burgled three time in the last twelve months. Once at night when we were in bed !!! • After dark I worry about intruders. • Youths and adults causing disturbances in the area, trying to access people's homes to see if they have locked their doors.
Drug related problems	**45**	**16.0**	• Lots of drug dealing & activity in the street • There are people dealing drugs outside of my flat. I have informed the police. Sometimes they do it in the street.
Level of crime	**36**	**12.8**	• So much crime in the area and no visible sign on police patrolling
Feel vulnerable/ Fear of assault	**35**	**12.4**	• Worried about home invaders.
Gangs/ Youths	**32**	**11.3**	• One often sees gangs of youths walking being very intimidating.
Lack of policing	**31**	**11.0**	• There is a shortage of police on the streets.
Cold Callers	**16**	**5.7**	• Constant pestering with cold callers especially charities.
Inconsiderate drivers / Motorbikes / Cyclists	**15**	**5.3**	• Multiple joy riding accidents outside my house.
Lighting / In the Dark	**11**	**3.9**	• Some parts have poorly lighting.
Drunks	**9**	**3.2**	• Loads of drunken students.
Homeless / Beggars	**7**	**2.5**	• Homeless people around the area outside and people on drugs causing ASB.
Increase in Knife crime	**6**	**2.1**	• Knife crime is rising and going outside to smoke isn't very nice. Also have to look after elderly.
Miscellaneous	**18**	**6.4**	• I don't feel that I can have doors or windows open.

NB. Percentages do not sum to 100.0% because responses could be coded into multiple themes.

2f.

Walking in your neighbourhood in daylight



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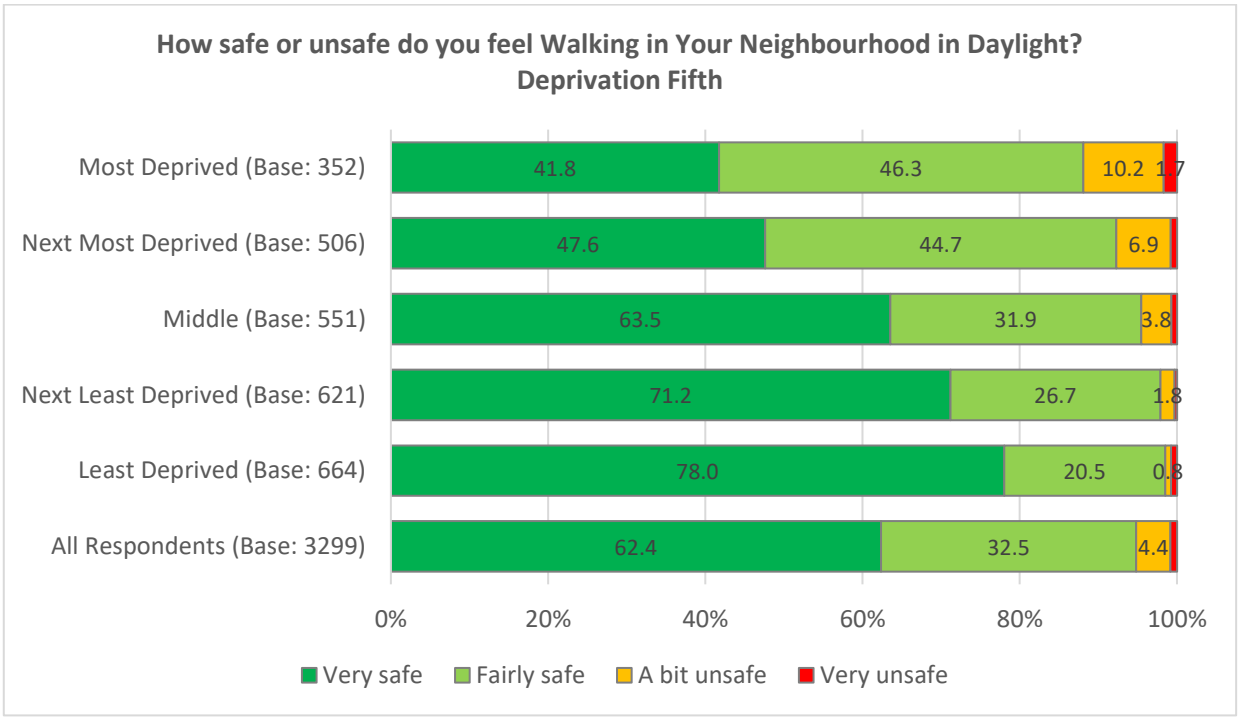

Walking in your neighbourhood in after dark

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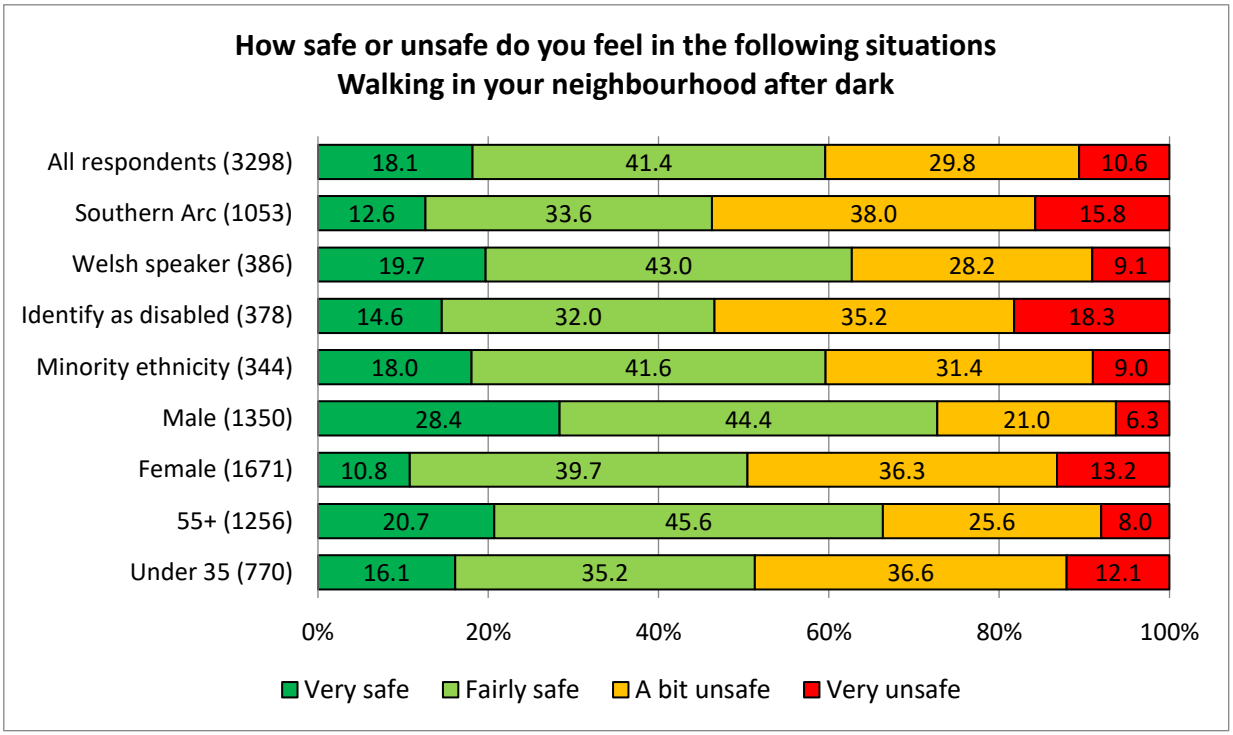

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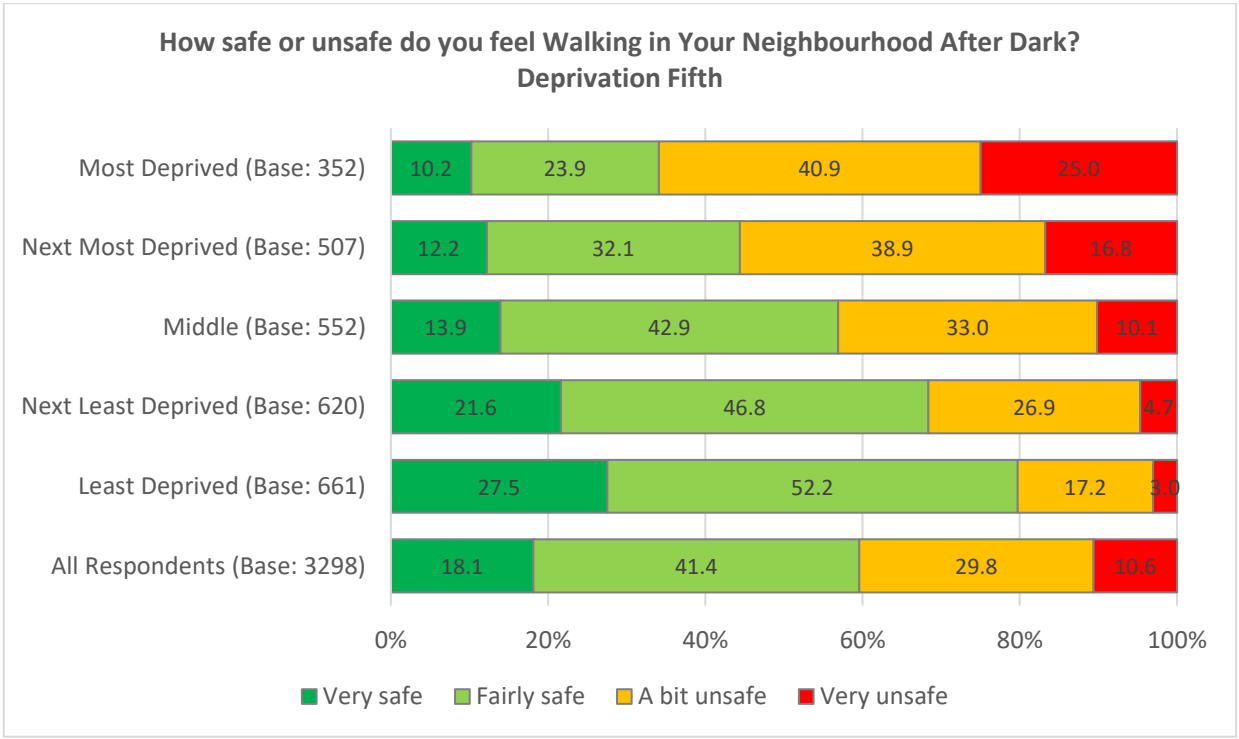

Walking in Neighbourhood Trend Data

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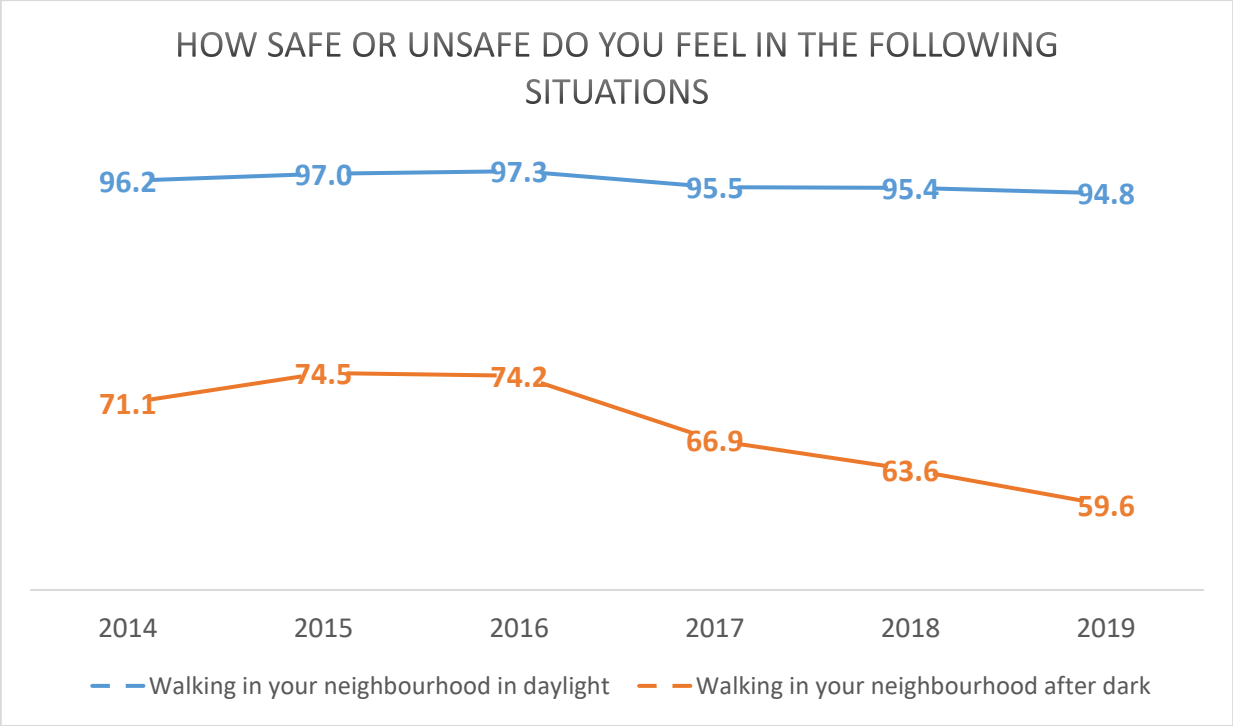

NB: - The chart above depicts the feeling of safety 'Very' and 'Fairly' combined for all respondents Walking in their neighbourhood in the daylight and after dark, for the period 2014-2019.

Respondents who indicated that they felt 'A bit unsafe' or 'Very unsafe' Walking in their neighbourhood either in the daylight or after dark were prompted to provide comments regarding their response. 1,016 respondents provided comments, which have been grouped into fifth teen thematic areas. A sample of comments by theme is provided in the table below.

Table 2

Theme	No	%	Example comments
Gangs / Youths	**336**	**33.1**	• Youth gangs in area can be intimidating to walk past. • There are gangs and individuals that may cause harm • There are gangs of youths who hang around and intimidate with shouting and circling around on bikes. • Only after dark. Worried about groups of teenagers.
Anti-social behaviour	**321**	**31.6**	• I know there is a lot of anti-social behaviour in my area. • Lack of resources to combat anti-social behaviour. • Because of anti-social behaviour at night. • Area is just anti-social which has got worse since the new housing developments and expected to get worse once latest houses and flats are built by me.
Lighting / In the Dark	**201**	**19.8**	• Poor lighting. Generally always aware of other people walking. • I live by woodland and I don't feel I can use the footpaths there after dark. • After dark I tend to be more cautious about where I walk. I usually avoid short cut down ally, notify friends/call friends during walk home.
Drug related problems	**194**	**19.1**	• Drug related crimes in my area. • there are drug dealers and therefore drug users walking around • There are many people who are drug dependent or have mental health issues I the community who sadly do not get the support they require.
Fear of assault	**134**	**13.2**	• I am afraid I might be mugged. • I'm afraid of being harassed, attacked, or mugged just for being out and about. • As a woman I sometimes feel threatened by men hanging around.
Inconsiderate drivers / Motorbikes / Cyclists	**119**	**11.7**	• Too many bikes and cars bushes on pavements often have to walk around. • Often people on quad bikes, motorbikes in parks where not permitted. • Reckless cyclist esp. around the Millennium centre on paved areas.
Neighbourhood	**91**	**9**	• Heavily populated dodgy area. • The area I live in.
Lack of policing	**86**	**8.5**	• Lack of policing in the local area, police station has been closed. • Don't see police around as much due to cutbacks felt safer when police more visible.
Level of Crime	**84**	**8.3**	• Lots of crime and anti-social behaviour. • The community I live in has a high crime rate.
Drunks	**82**	**8.1**	• Increasing number of drunk people wandering around. • Late night revellers In the street.
Homeless / Beggars	**47**	**4.6**	• Homeless people spill over from town in to Roath, & lurk in the alley ways
State of surface/pavement/ Overgrown bushes	**42**	**4.1**	• Pavements are in a poor state of repair - difficult to see clearly when walking in the dark.
Increase in Knife crime	**40**	**3.9**	• Several incidences of knife crime in the area, wouldn't necessarily walk during the night-time.
Age / Ability issues	**16**	**1.6**	• No longer able to physically defend myself against potential violent attacks.
Miscellaneous	**55**	**5.4**	• You cannot know what is other people's minds. • Specifically when Cardiff city play Cowbridge road is a no go area.

NB. Percentages do not sum to 100.0% because responses could be coded into multiple themes.

Walking in the city centre in daylight

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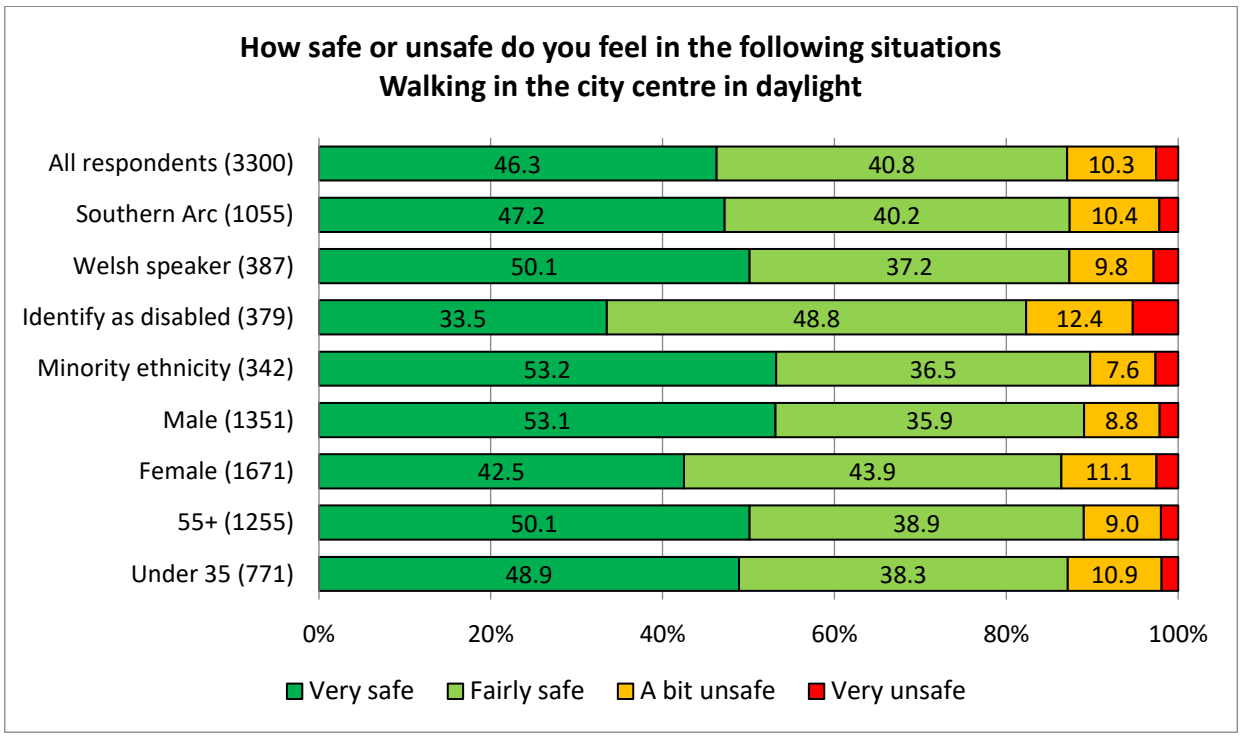

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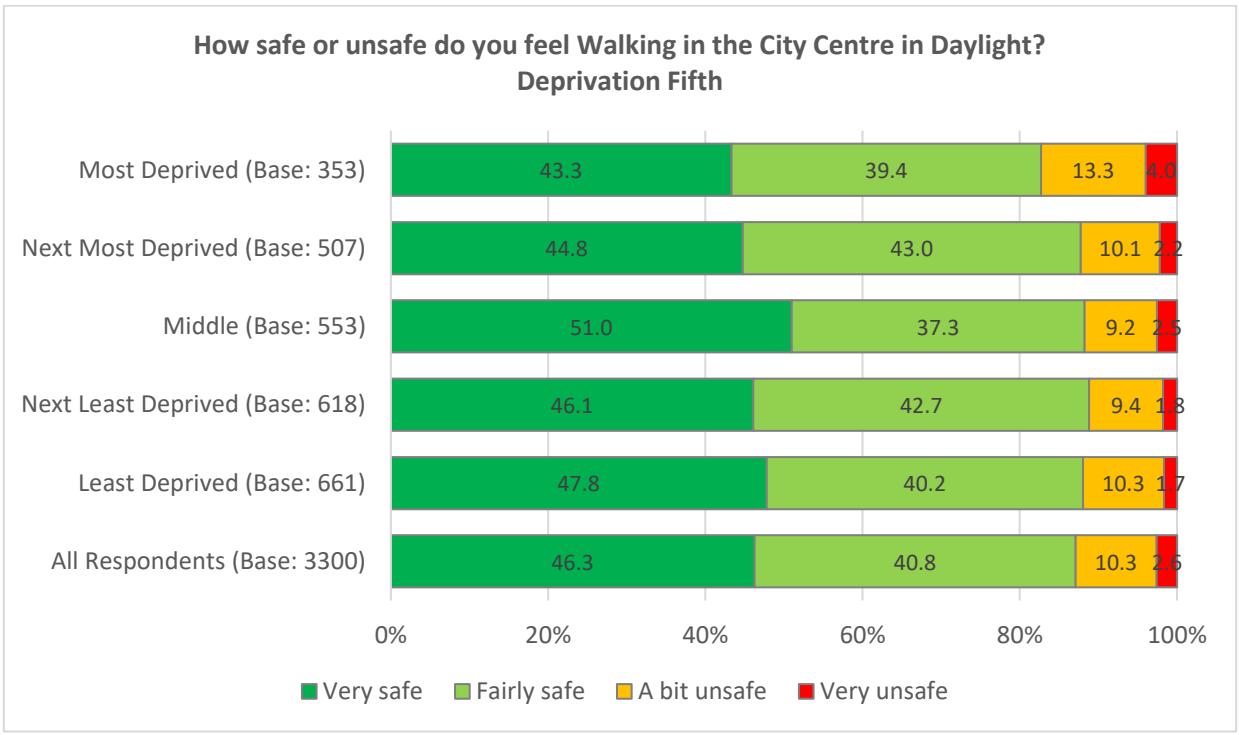

Walking in the city centre after dark

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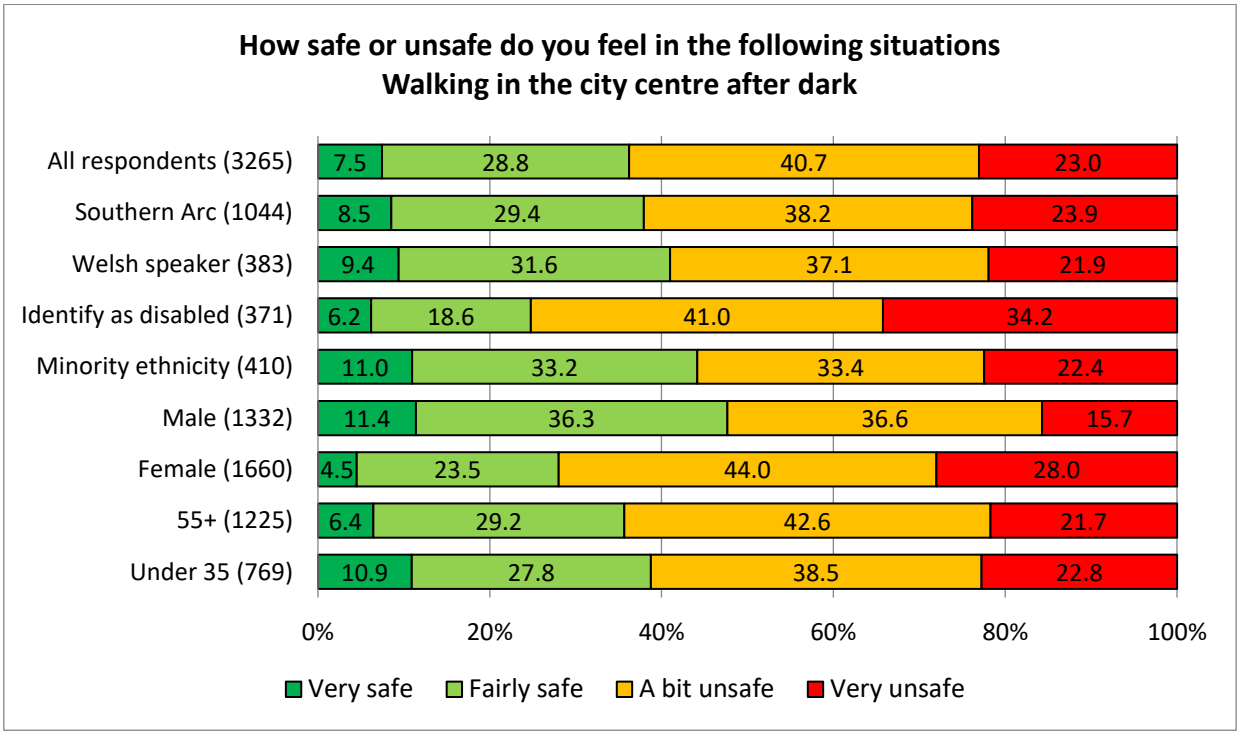

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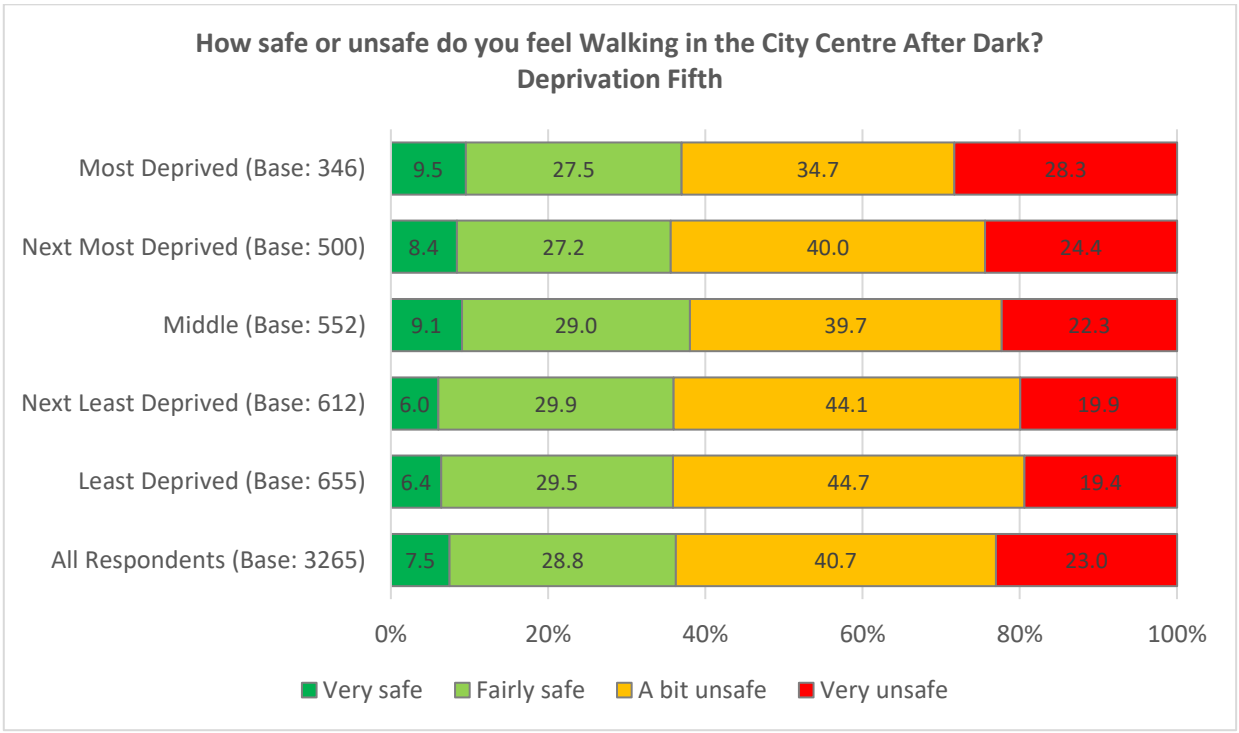

Walking in City Centre Trend Data

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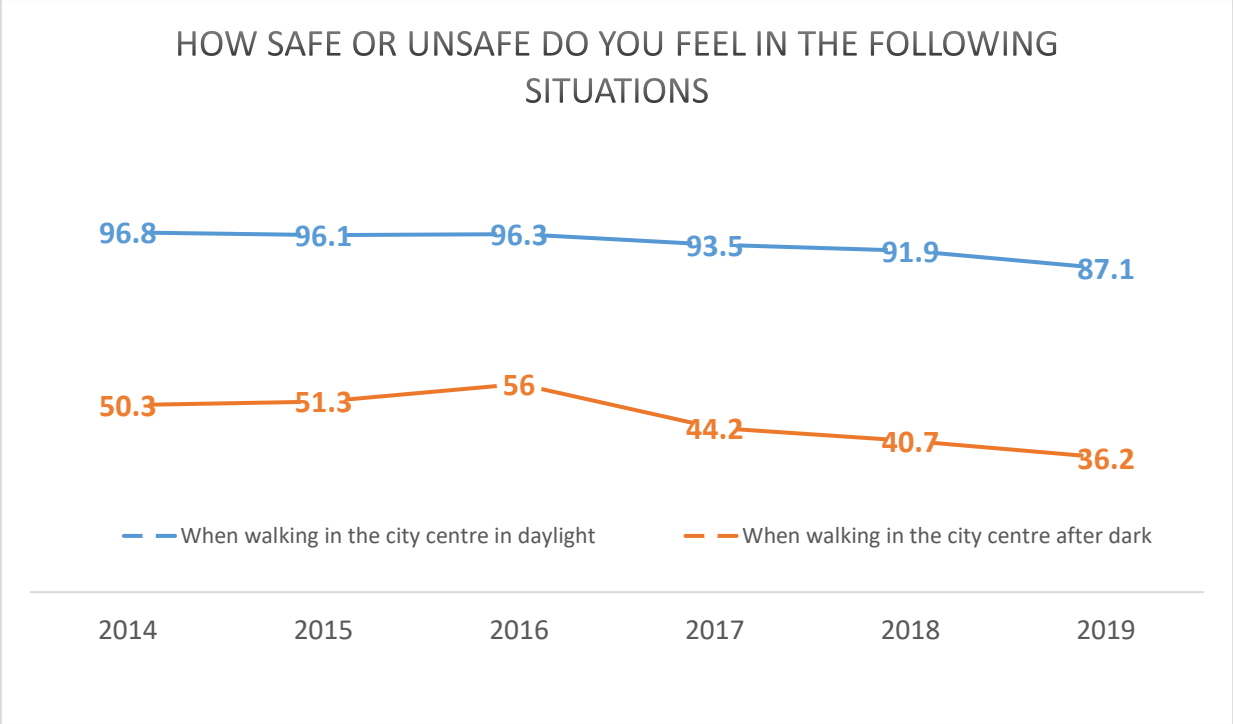

NB: - The chart above depicts the feeling of safety 'Very' and 'Fairly' combined for all respondents Walking in the city centre in the daylight and after dark, for the period 2014-2019.

Respondents who indicated that they felt 'A bit unsafe' or 'Very unsafe' Walking in the City centre either in the daylight or after dark were prompted to provide comments regarding their response. 1,667 respondents provided comments, which have been grouped into fourteen thematic areas. A sample of comments by theme is provided in the table below.

Table 3

Theme	No	%	Example comments
Homeless / Beggars	**751**	**45.1**	• Too many homeless and drunk people in the City Centre at night time. • Lots of homeless people who are intoxicated and shouting. • At times, people cycling in pedestrian areas, and sometimes aggressive begging, alcohol misuse. • Large volume of rough sleepers, and others who's needs are not being met.
Drunken behaviour	**660**	**39.6**	• At night it is unsafe, homeless people approaching you and drunk people are unpredictable. • Drunken people, rough sleepers. • Herds of drunk people, particularly on the weekends. • Because at weekends it is full of large groups of drunk people
Anti-social behaviour / Intimidation	**572**	**34.3**	• Anti-social behaviour, the amount of homeless people. • Many very pushy homeless people congregating in large groups who behave in a threatening. way • Feel intimidated by the homeless when leaving work at 9pm and getting to my bus stop.
Drug related problems	**476**	**28.6**	• Lots of people with drug/mental health issues. • Lots of drug addicts fighting, begging and causing other issues in city centre. • Increase in people on drugs etc.
Fear of assault / Feel vulnerable	**238**	**14.3**	• I am a single female, and just for this reason would not consider walking alone at night in the city centre. I would be afraid of being attacked. • As a woman, I don't feel safe walking at night alone. • At my age I would feel vulnerable.
Gangs / Youths	**188**	**11.3**	• Gangs of youths walking in the street • Gangs of youths in centre • Groups of teenagers are hanging around
Lack of policing	**123**	**7.4**	• Lack of police presence - there should be police on the beat. • There is a distinct lack of policing. I feel nervous walking through town due to service users.
Lighting/ In the dark	**97**	**5.8**	• Its dark and not enough street lighting • Some parts not well lit at night - walking to car or bus (by Golden Cross) not nice after theatre
Inconsiderate drivers / Motorbikes / Cyclists	**60**	**3.6**	• Bicycles and cyclists in a pedestrianised area so dangerous.
Level of Crime	**59**	**3.5**	• Too many crimes are committed which makes me uneasy.
Increase in knife crime	**56**	**3.4**	• Increase in knife crime
Large volumes of people	**43**	**2.6**	• I don't like to be in large crowds of people.
State of surface/pavement	**11**	**0.7**	• Slippery surfaces, council staff loitering, unclean surfaces, broken lights, empty shops, traffic confused but plethora of mixed signs
Miscellaneous	**88**	**5.3**	• Try it for yourself. • I don't go into town.

NB. Percentages do not sum to 100.0% because responses could be coded into multiple themes

Travelling by bus in daylight

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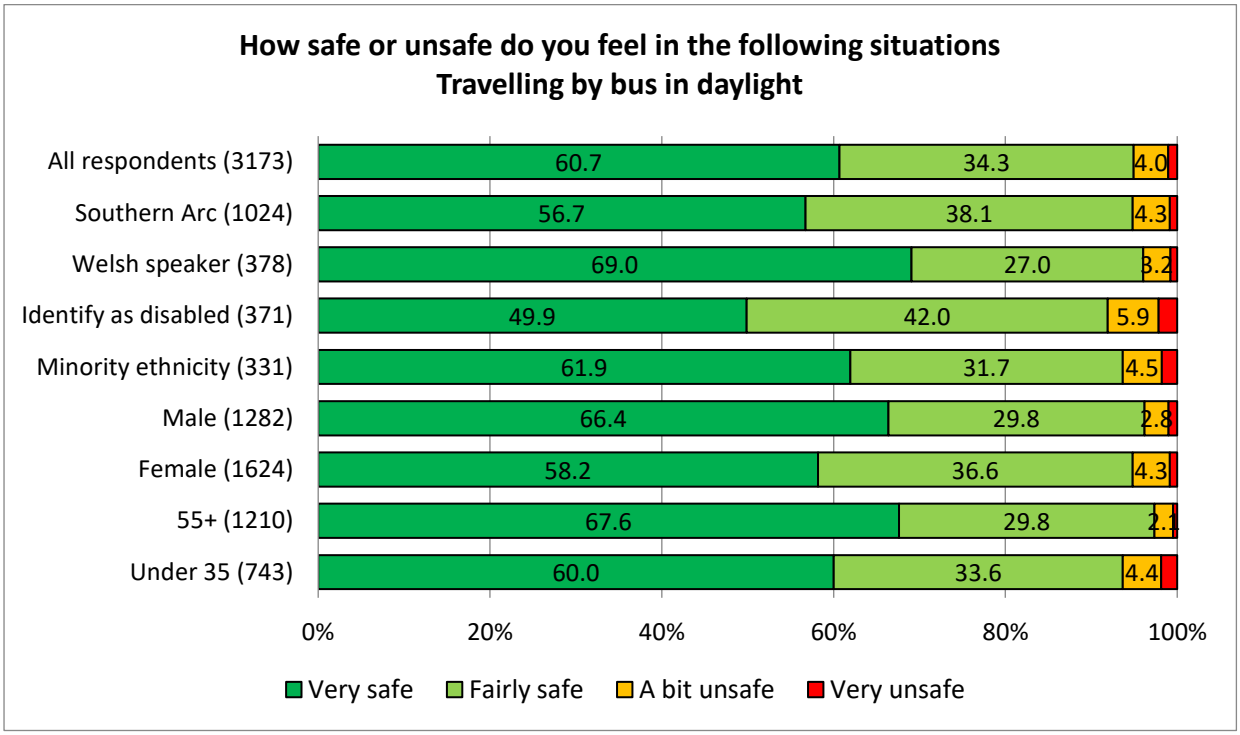

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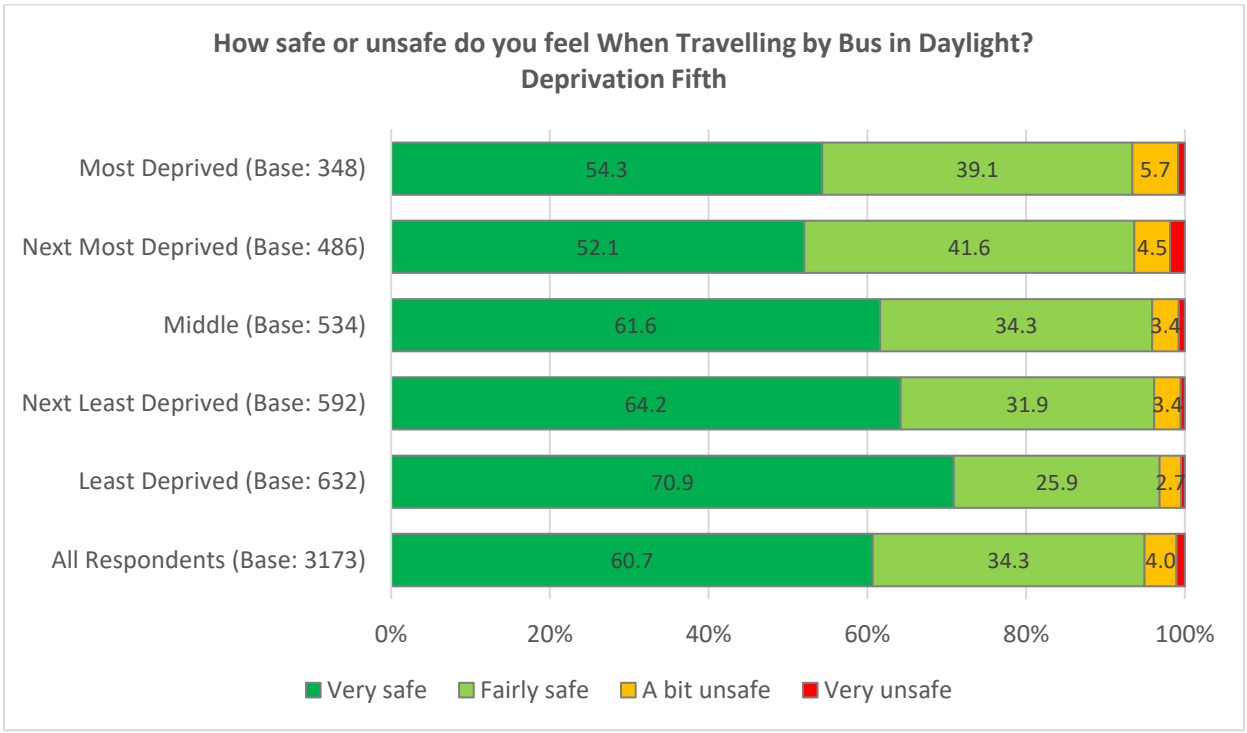

Travelling by bus after dark

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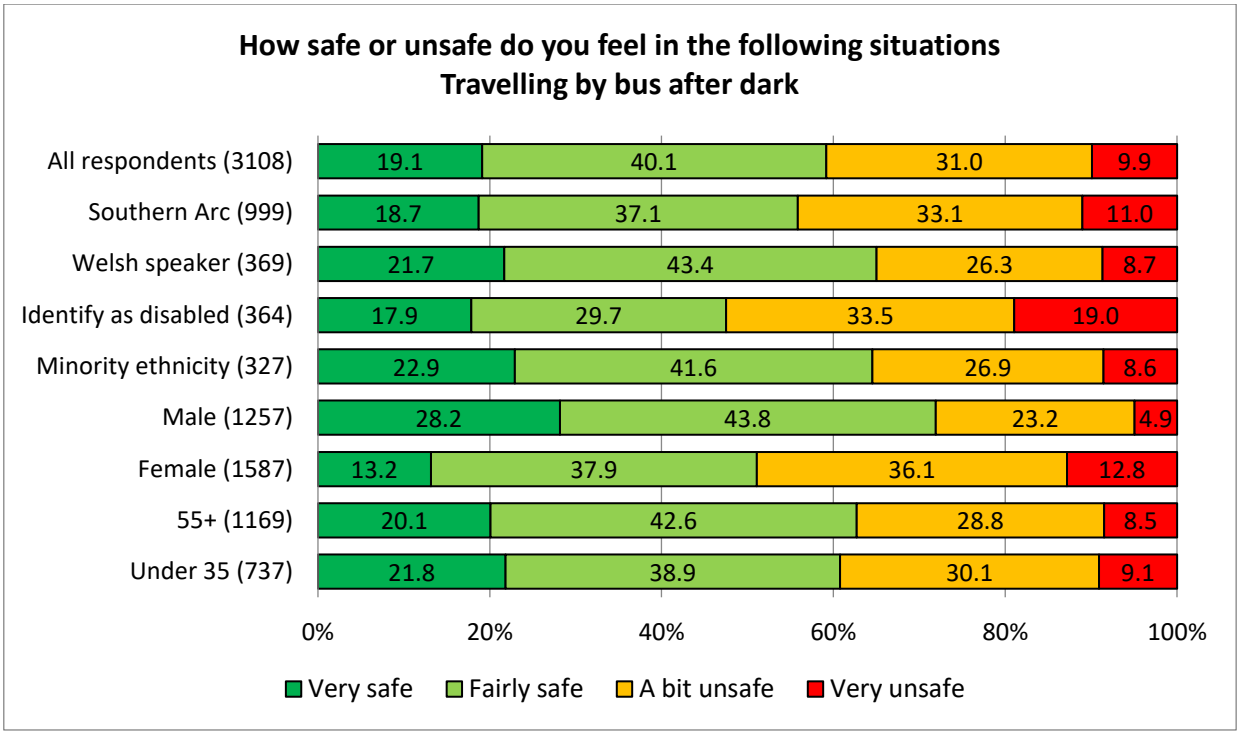

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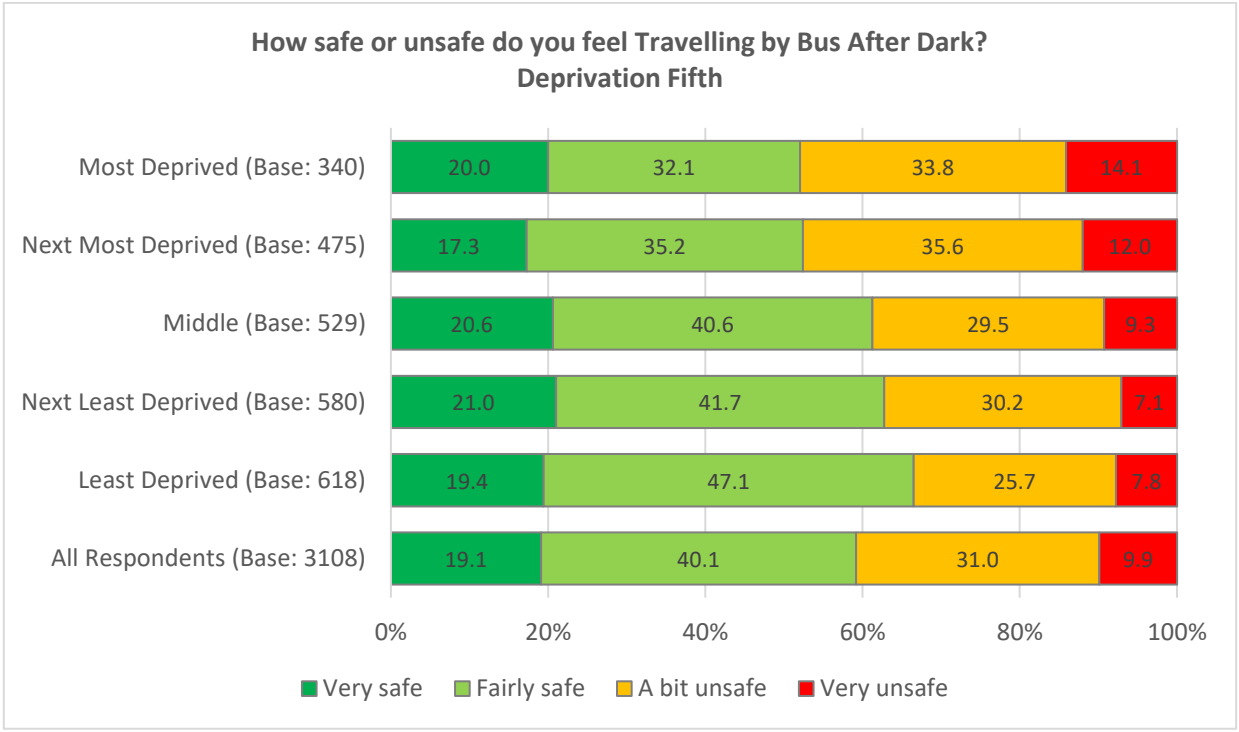

Travelling by Bus Trend Data

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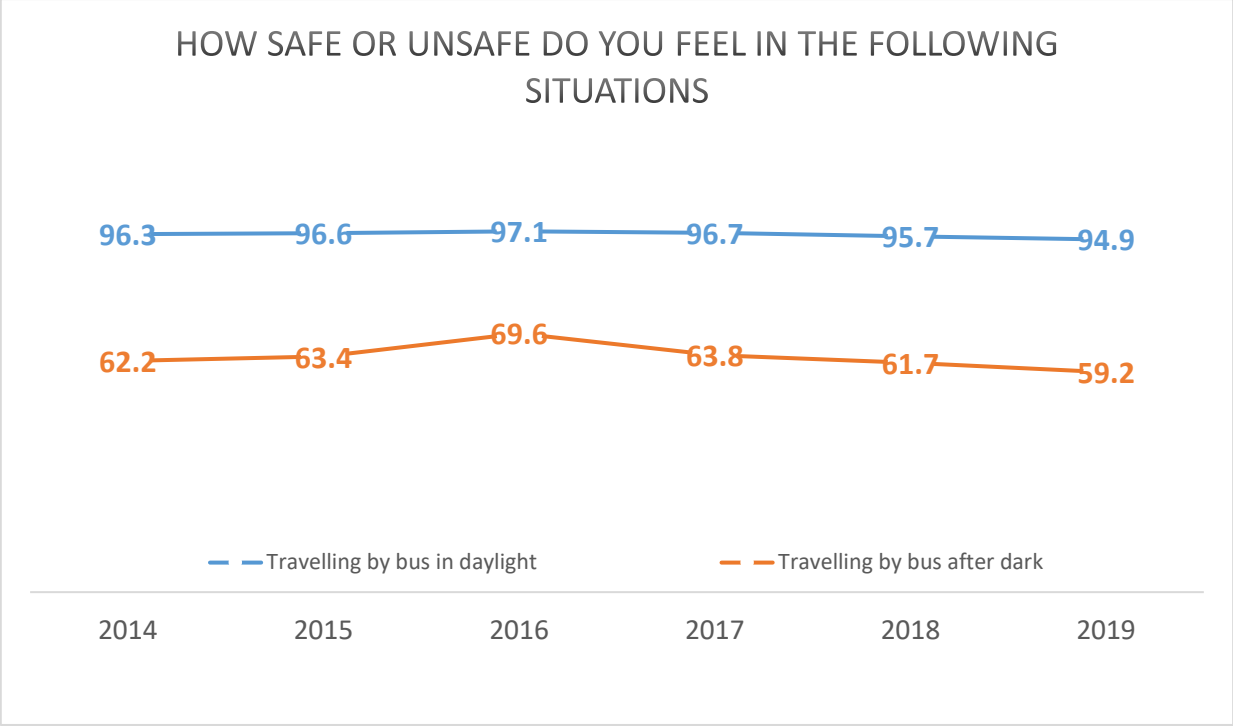


NB: - The chart above depicts the feeling of safety 'Very' and 'Fairly' combined for all respondents Travelling by bus in the daylight and after dark, for the period 2014-2019.

Respondents who indicated that they felt 'A bit unsafe' or 'Very unsafe' Travelling by Bus either in the daylight or after dark were prompted to provide comments regarding their response. 773 respondents provided comments, which have been grouped into fifth teen thematic areas. A sample of comments by theme is provided in the table below.

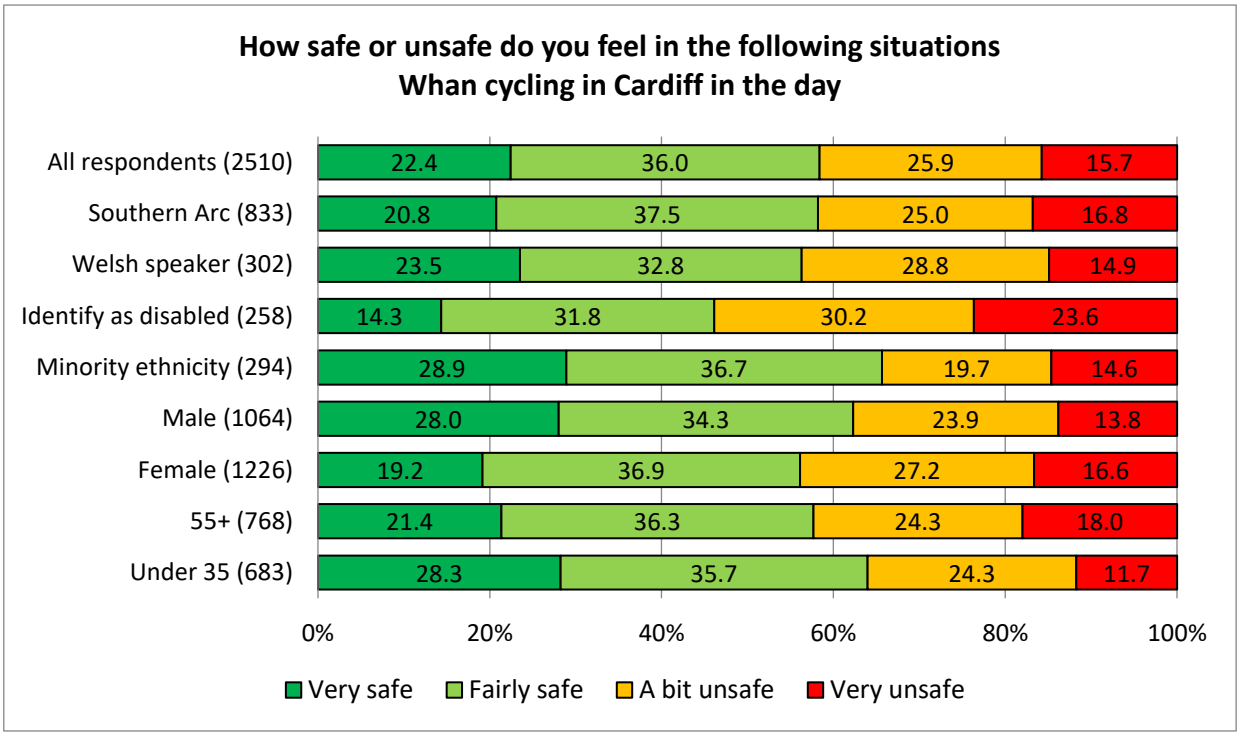
Table 4

Theme	No	%	Example comments
Anti-social behaviour / Intimidation	**286**	**37.0**	• People who have absolutely no consideration for other behaving aggressively on buses. • At night - anti social behaviour. • Loud and unapproachable people travelling on buses. • Some of the people using bus, are no better than animals. I feel very sorry for the drivers.
Drunken behaviour	**178**	**23.0**	• During the evening there'd are quite a few boisterous drunk people who use my bus route. • At night too many drunks on the bus. • Stuck in an enclosed space usually with drunk people. • The amount of drunks on bus.
Fear of assault / Feel vulnerable	**130**	**16.8**	• Especially at night. Feel very vulnerable. • As a woman unwanted attention. • I'm a disabled person and feel exposed and vulnerable. I have had bad experiences.
In the dark/ At night	**111**	**14.4**	• Again there are less people around at night and it's dark so you automatically feel uneasy. • Only after dark. • Only at night - I never travel by bus at night.
Other people	**65**	**8.4**	• Being among people who you do not know. • People's hygiene, drivers.
Gangs/ youths	**64**	**8.3**	• Gangs of youths using the bus service are not pleasant, often rowdy. • Youths causing problems.
Lack of policing/ Control	**63**	**8.2**	• Driver unable to assist if there is a problem with other passengers.
Walking to and from bus	**55**	**7.1**	• Walking to and from bus stops when not many people are about feels scary.
Drug related problems	**46**	**6.0**	• I've seen instances where other passengers have been abused and intimidated. I've sat on buses with abusive / drunk / drug influenced passengers where I've been very glad to get off.
Poor service/ facilities	**38**	**4.9**	• Bus stops not always clean and well lit.
No. of bus users	**37**	**4.8**	• Rather quiet or over crowded.
Do not use buses	**32**	**4.1**	• To be honest, I don't use the bus service much.
Bad experience with drivers	**26**	**3.4**	• Bus drivers are reckless, have witnessed many near misses and accidents.
Frequency	**16**	**2.1**	• Not enough buses in the night.
Reliability	**16**	**2.1**	• Sometimes buses don't turn up, or are often late.
Homeless	**15**	**1.9**	• There are so many homeless people and not being able to see people's faces.
Level of crime	**7**	**0.7**	• Increased crime, lack of police services. No police patrol. No police station. No police patrolling.
Increase in knife crime	**5**	**0.6**	• Perception that crime is worse than it has been. Knife crime increase makes you feel more vulnerable.
Miscellaneous	**53**	**5.9**	• Brexit impact on hate crime.

NB. Percentages do not sum to 100.0% because responses could be coded into multiple themes.

When cycling in Cardiff in the day

2u.



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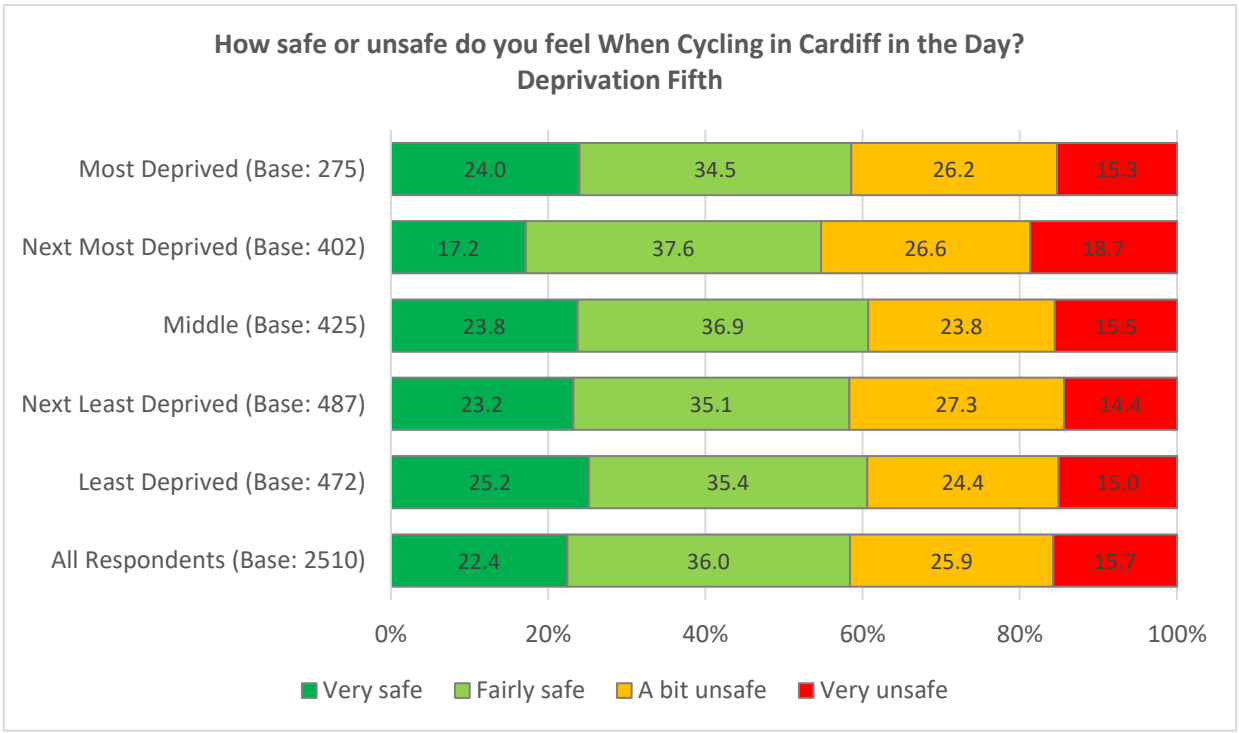

When cycling in Cardiff after dark

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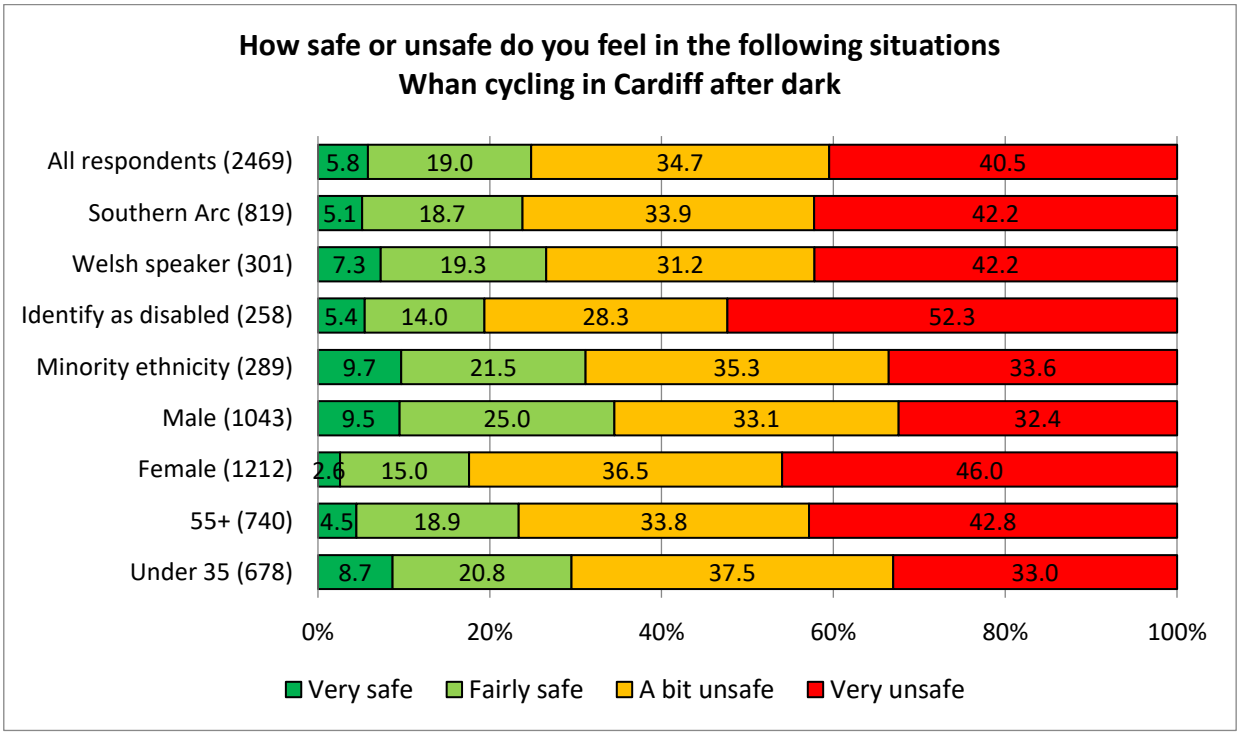

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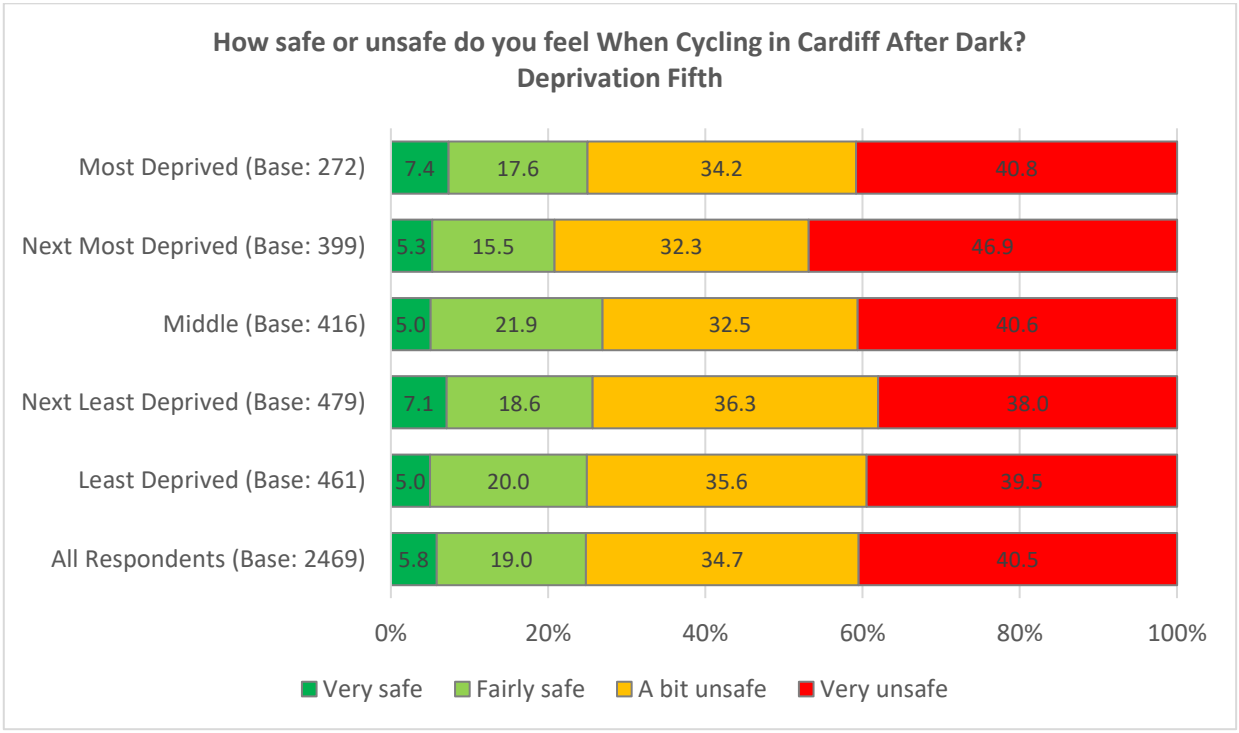

Cycling in Cardiff

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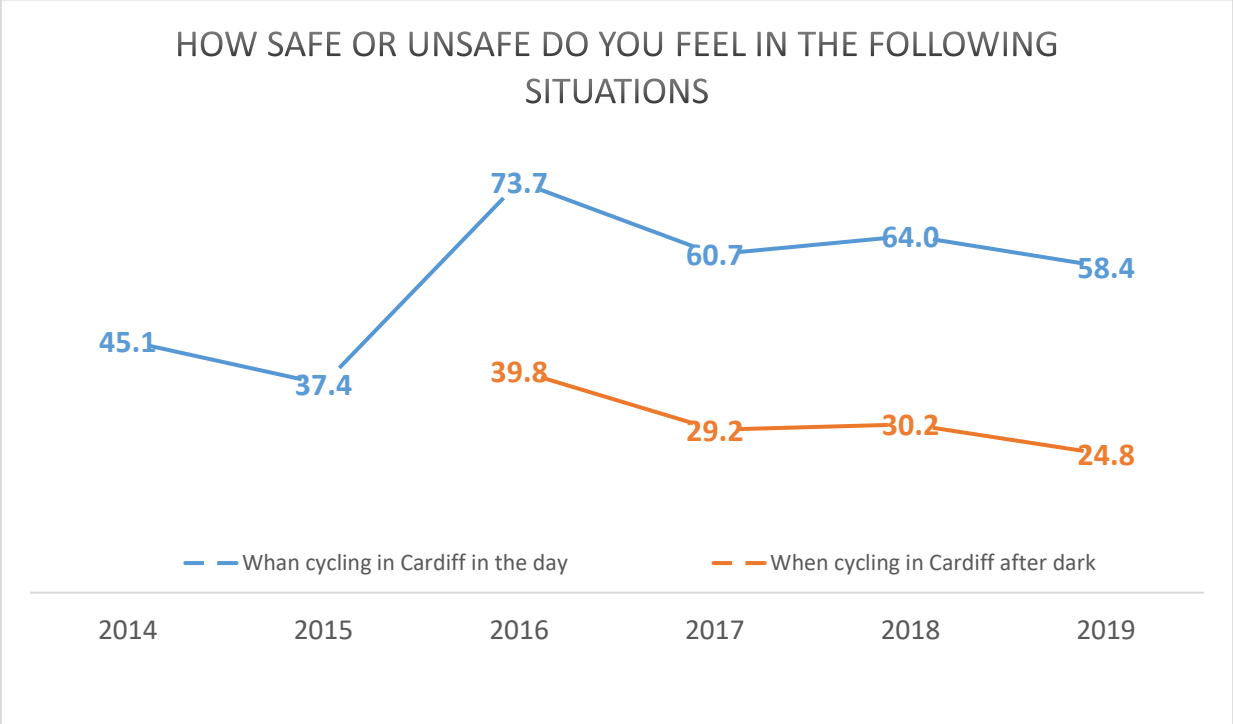


NB: - The chart above depicts the feeling of safety 'Very' and 'Fairly' combined for all respondents Cycling in Cardiff in the day and after dark, for the period 2014-2019.

There are methodological differences in 2016 compared with previous years. From 2014 to 2015, Cycling in Cardiff did not differentiate in the day or after dark.

Those respondents that indicated they were 'A bit unsafe' or 'Very unsafe' cycling in Cardiff either in the day or after dark, were given the opportunity to explain why. 1,372 Respondents provided comments, they were grouped into fourteen themes with sample comments, and are detailed below.

Table 5

Theme	No	%	Example comments
Dangerous/Inconsiderate Drivers / Volume of traffic	**677**	**49.3**	• A small minority of drivers are very aggressive when meeting cyclists. • Overcrowded roads. • Don't trust motorists to be careful about cyclists in the dark • I have been hit by a Cardiff bus whilst cycling, been kicked by a pedestrian and cars get too close.
Lack of dedicated cycle infrastructure	**523**	**38.1**	• Lack of cycle paths and dedicated cycling lanes and the drivers on the road at night going faster. • Cycle network on roads in Cardiff is appalling. This needs to improve, separate cycle lanes needed! • Insufficient cycling infrastructure. • Very little genuine segregation from vehicular traffic.
Lighting/ Visibility	**182**	**13.3**	• In the dark, concern about an accident from poor visibility • Hard to see cyclists in the dark. • Lighting around cycle paths could be improved.
Road conditions	**159**	**11.6**	• The road conditions are a disgrace. It's like off road biking!!! • Road maintenance is poor in places; inconsiderate / illegal parking on double yellow lines and at junctions. • Condition of the road surface and speed of traffic.
Feel vulnerable - fear of assault	**131**	**9.5**	• I feel slightly vulnerable on lonely paths, especially if unlit. Underpasses can also be an issue. • Previous incidents of deliberate intimidation. • Fear of being attacked.
Don't cycle	**102**	**7.4**	• I don't cycle. But from point of view as a driver cyclists are difficult to spot in dark.
Criminal behaviour / Bike Crime	**75**	**5.5**	• I had 3 bikes stolen from a bike rack in the centre of town in the middle of the day. I won't cycle into town again.
Anti-social behaviour	**74**	**5.4**	• People don't take kindly to cyclists especially on quite parts of the Taff trail or roads
Inconsiderate cyclists	**38**	**2.8**	• Far too many pavement cyclists !!!!
Lack of police	**28**	**2.0**	• Lack of police to deal with any incident that might occur.
Gangs/ Youths	**28**	**2.0**	• Litter, and gangs, particularly along the river paths through the parks.
Ability	**20**	**1.5**	• I am not a confident cyclist.
Cycle storage	**3**	**0.2**	• Dark streets, bike crime, nowhere safe to leave bike
Miscellaneous	**59**	**4.3**	• Have you tried cycling in Cardiff…

NB. Percentages do not sum to 100.0% because responses could be coded into multiple themes.

Child Friendly City Survey 2019

Introduction

Cardiff is working towards becoming a Child Friendly City, in partnership with Unicef UK. We are aiming to embed a child's rights approach to the planning and delivery of public services, making children's rights integral to policy and practice. A key component of the approach is ensuring that children and young people are given a voice and can help influence decisions about where they live, the services that they receive and the future development of the city.

Methodology

The survey was distributed through all primary and secondary schools in Cardiff via Head Teachers. The survey pack contained a slide deck for both staff and pupils that provided information about the survey and how the data would be used.

The survey was live from September until November 2020 and schools were asked to support pupils to complete the survey during the school day.

Each school has access to their own data to use within the school community where appropriate.

Response Rate

6,100 children and young people aged 8-18 responded to the survey from across 39 different communities. With a population size of 43,728, this gives a 95% confidence interval of +/-1.16. However, it is noted that completion rate was low in some schools due to the length of the survey and time allocated for completion. This will be considered as part of a review before the next survey is distributed.

Findings

83.4% of children and young people felt safe in their neighbourhood most or all of the time *(Reference Chart CFC1)*.

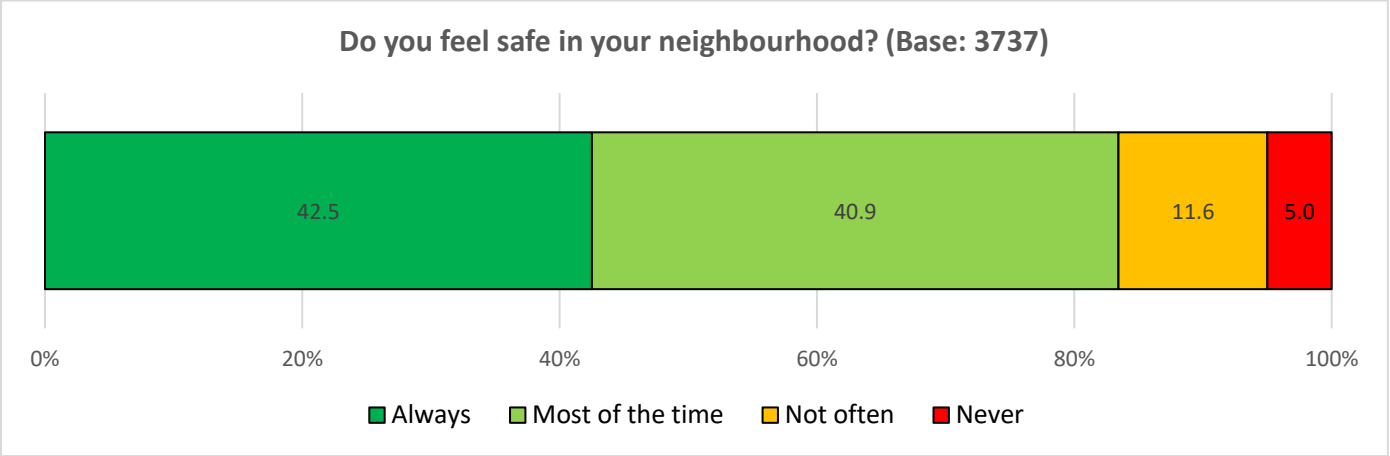
Fear of knife crime (40.5%), gangs (38.2%) and groups of people (37.7%) were the main things making children and young people feel unsafe in their neighbourhood. *(Reference Chart CFC2)*

13.2% of children and young people had been a victim of crime in the past 2 years, with 5% not reporting the incident to the police. *(Reference Chart CFC3)*

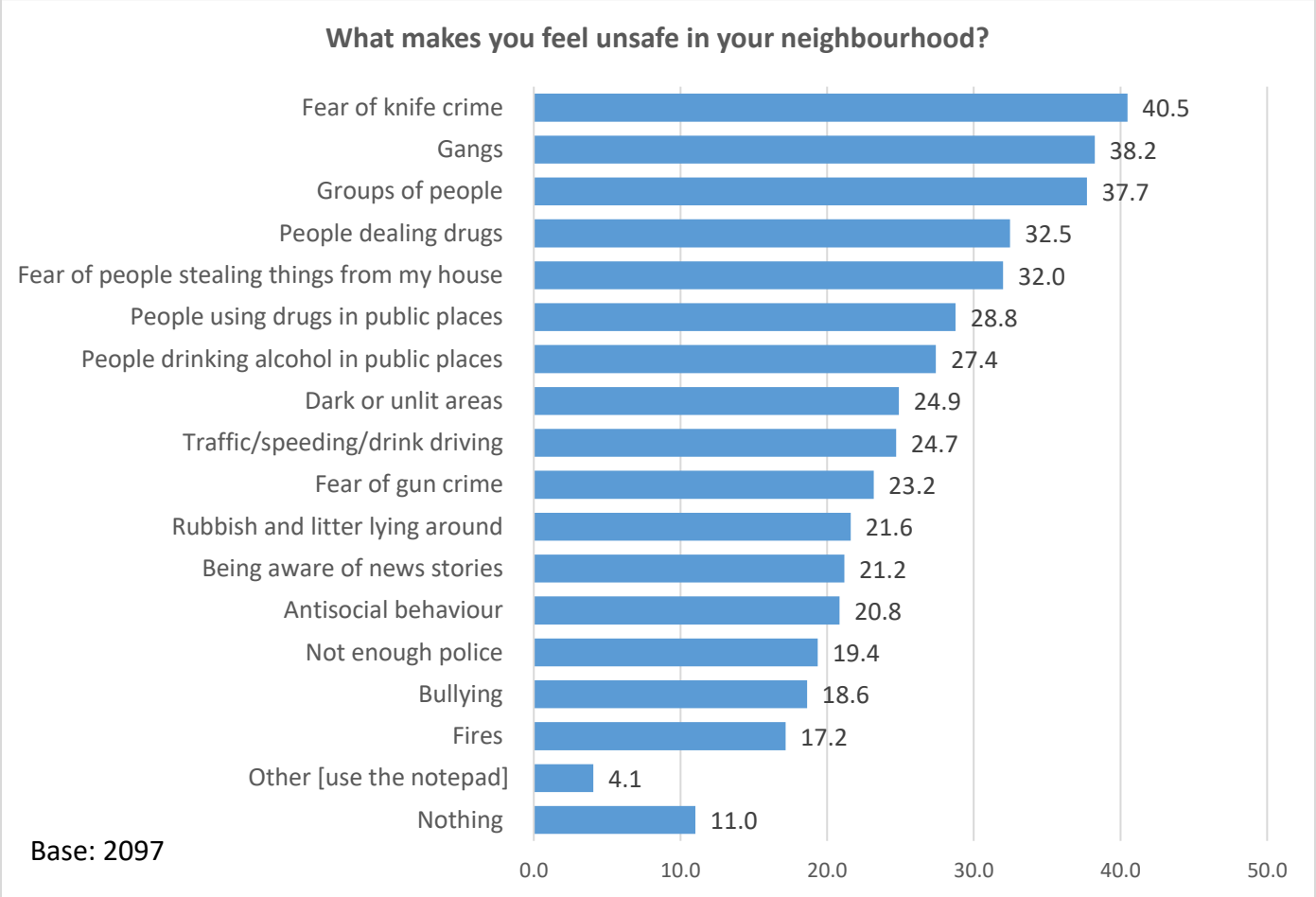
72.4% of children and young people agree public services are doing enough to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhood. *(Reference Chart CFC4)*

Children and young people wanted to see people stopped from carrying/using knives (38.9%), more CCTV (36.4%) and more police patrols (35.8%) *(Reference Chart CFC5)*

CFC1

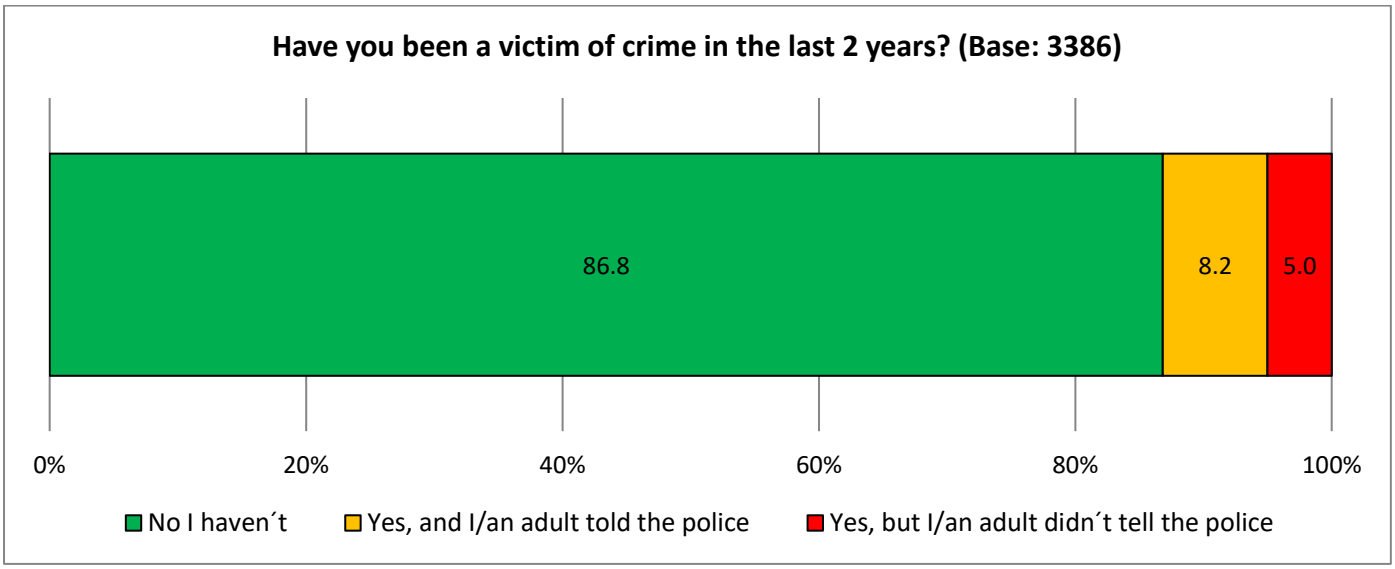


CFC2

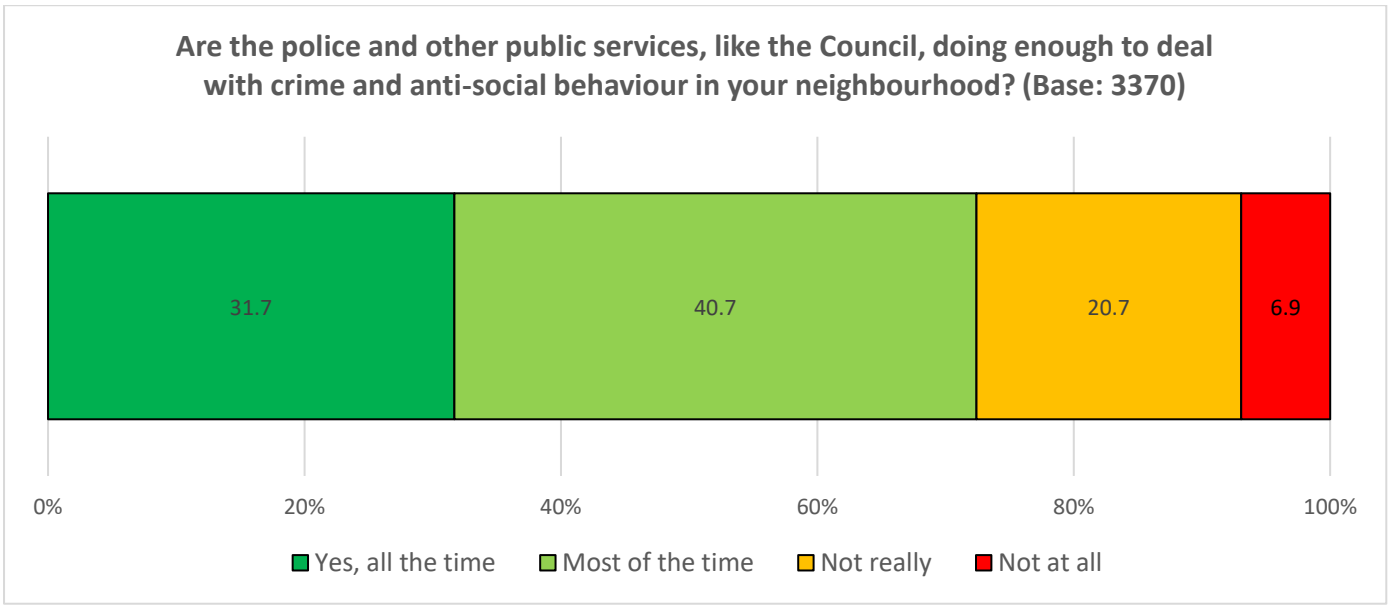


Base: 2097

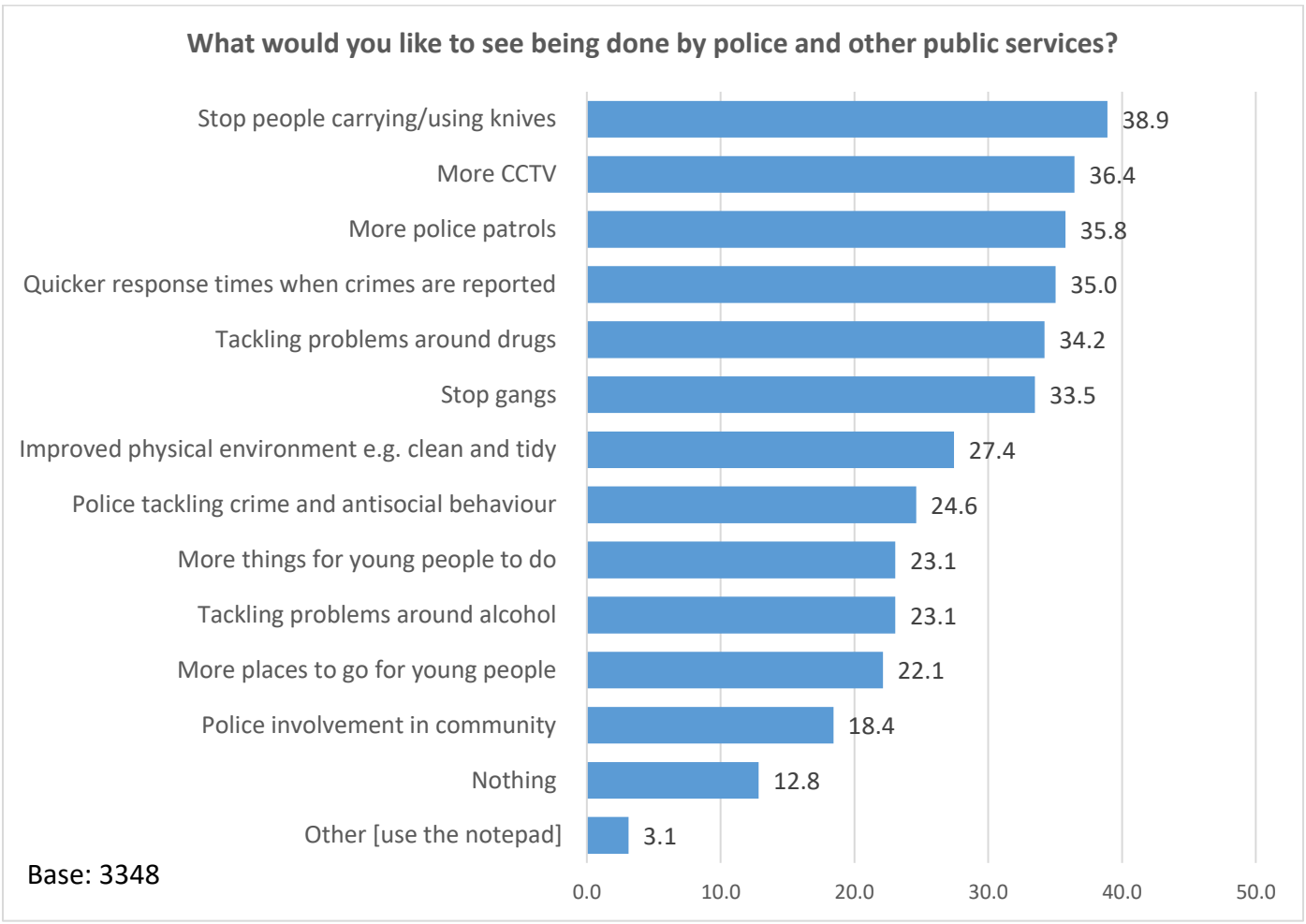
CFC3


Have you been a victim of crime in the last 2 years? (Base: 3386)
86.8
8.2
5.0
0%
20%
40%
60%
80%
100%
No I haven´t
Yes, and I/an adult told the police
Yes, but I/an adult didn´t tell the police

CFC4


Are the police and other public services, like the Council, doing enough to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour in your neighbourhood? (Base: 3370)
31.7
40.7
20.7
6.9
0%
20%
40%
60%
80%
100%
Yes, all the time
Most of the time
Not really
Not at all

CFC5


What would you like to see being done by police and other public services?
Stop people carrying/using knives
38.9
More CCTV
36.4
More police patrols
35.8
Quicker response times when crimes are reported
35.0
Tackling problems around drugs
34.2
Stop gangs
33.5
Improved physical environment e.g. clean and tidy
27.4
Police tackling crime and antisocial behaviour
24.6
More things for young people to do
23.1
Tackling problems around alcohol
23.1
More places to go for young people
22.1
Police involvement in community
18.4
Nothing
12.8
Other [use the notepad]
3.1
0.0
10.0
20.0
30.0
40.0
50.0
Base: 3348