

Scottish Household Survey

Volunteering Cross-sectional Analysis: **Community engagement & citizenship**

Debbie Maltman & Matthew Linning
Volunteer Scotland, Research and Evaluation



Contents Page

Section	Slide
<u>1. Research Overview</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) Fields</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>3. Belonging to immediate neighbourhood</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>4. Local community decision making (Citizenship)</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>5. Local community and individuals social networks</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>6. Summary Highlights</u>	<u>31</u>

1. Research Overview

1. Research overview.

- This presentation is one of a series of presentations that builds upon Volunteer Scotland's [time series analysis](#) of [Chapter 11](#) of the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) by cross tabulating a number of SHS fields with volunteering.

Cross-sectional presentation topics
Health and Wellbeing
Sport, exercise & outdoor activities
Culture
Household information
Caring responsibilities
Community engagement & citizenship
Neighbourhood characteristics
Other: Internet, marital status & Health Boards

- This presentation cross-tabulates a number of Community engagement & citizenship SHS fields with volunteering.

1. Research overview.

- The Scottish Household Survey (SHS) is an annual survey based on a random sample of the Scottish Adult population aged 16+ (9,630 in 2016). This presentation uses data from the 2016 SHS as the full 2017 Dataset was not available at the time the analysis was completed.
- The SHS questions are split into sub-sets of questions asked to either the head of the household, the individual with the highest individual income or a randomly selected adult. The random adult subset of the SHS dataset is used for the analysis undertaken as this section contains the volunteering question.
- This presentation focuses exclusively on **Formal Volunteering** – defined as “..... *Giving up time to help any groups, clubs or organisations in an unpaid capacity*” that individuals have undertaken at least once in the past 12 months.



1. Research overview.

- The Community engagement & citizenship fields selected for analysis are based on findings from the comprehensive literature review - [Volunteering, Health and Wellbeing, What does the evidence tell us](#) published by Volunteer Scotland. While this report's focus was on the Health and Wellbeing effects on individual volunteers, the report highlights the important contribution of volunteering to community engagement:
 - **Local delivery** – notwithstanding online volunteering, most volunteering is a local affair. It is embedded within a community for the benefit of that community. The local nature of volunteering is a key factor.
 - **Social capital** – volunteering builds social relationships between volunteers, beneficiaries, staff and other voluntary bodies located in the community. This leads to enhanced social networking, improved understanding and more cohesive communities.
 - **Reciprocity** – in social psychology ‘reciprocity’ is the social norm of responding to a positive action with another positive action. Hence, if a volunteer helps someone in the community the beneficiary is more likely to respond with another positive action. This leads to a virtuous circle of community members helping each other – this mutuality and sharing are important.

1. Research overview

- **‘Spillover’ effects** – *“if you live in a community with high levels of volunteering, even if you do not volunteer, your subjective wellbeing will still tend to be increased by all that goodwill and social capital building around you.”* O’Donnell, G. et al (2014)
- **Co-production** – *“...Boyle et al (2010) argue that the involvement of the public and local people in shaping and delivering public services not only creates a person- centred service which is more responsive to the needs of local people, but also fosters a sense of responsibility and community activism where people take control of their own lives and local services, create and develop social networks and galvanise resources for the local community”*
- This presentation analyses relevant SHS Community engagement & citizenship at a national level and provides a comparison between Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintiles (SIMD Q). SIMD Q ranks areas in Scotland on a scale of 1- Most deprived 20% of the population to 5 – Least deprived 20% of the population.

1. Research overview.

- Statistical methodology
 - For each of the SHS fields analysed we want to determine if there is a relationship between volunteer participation and the SHS field.
 - For example, the volunteer participation rate for those with a strong sense of belonging to their immediate neighbourhood are above average and those without a strong sense of belonging are below average. In this case does a sense of belonging to your immediate neighbourhood affect volunteer participation rates or is this difference due to chance?
 - To test if there is a statistical relationship chi square analysis is used.
 - Chi square analysis is used as the data being analysed are categorical (data in categories), for example whether adults have a sense of belonging to their immediate neighbourhood is recorded in a number of different categories; very strongly agrees, fairly strongly agrees, not very strongly agrees and not at all strongly agrees.
 - Chi square testing allows us to test a hypothesis (a theory or question), e.g. volunteer participation is dependent on a feeling of belonging to your immediate neighbourhood against the alternative hypothesis that volunteer participation is independent of belonging to your immediate neighbourhood (there is no relationship).
 - This tests whether a relationship exists between the two categorical variables analysed, for example volunteering and feeling of belonging to your immediate neighbourhood, but does not tell us whether the difference between the Scottish average participation rate and the volunteer participation rates for each individual category is statistically significant. At this stage we are identifying whether questions have a relationship between volunteering and the overall trend between categories (above or below the Scottish average). It is important for Volunteer Scotland to identify relationships with volunteering at an overall level to understand variables such as general health that have a relationship with volunteering, before undertaking more detailed thematic analysis which examines the relationships further.
 - Finally, a relationship (correlation) between the fields analysed and volunteering does not imply causation. Where we see a relationship between the variables this does not necessarily mean that one causes the other. For example a correlation between a feeling of belonging to your immediate neighbourhood and volunteering does not mean that volunteering causes a feeling of belonging to your immediate neighbourhood. Instead, it may be that those that feel that they belong to their immediate neighbourhood are attracted into volunteering. We just don't know.

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) Fields for Community engagement & citizenship

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) fields.

The SHS fields selected for analysis of ‘Community engagement & citizenship’ are split into three sections:

Section	SHS Question	Definition	Response Categories	Sample Size
Feeling of belonging to local community	commbel - How strongly do you feel you belong to your immediate neighbourhood?	commbel is a self-reported measure of whether individuals feel that they belong to the local neighbourhood in which they live.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 5 categories ranging from Not at all strongly to Very strongly. For the analysis in this presentation responses of “I don’t know” have been excluded and the categories grouped into two: Strongly (which adds Very strongly agrees and fairly strongly agrees together) and Not Strongly (which adds not very strongly agrees and not at all strongly agrees together).	9,630

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) fields.

The SHS fields selected for analysis of ‘Community engagement & citizenship’:

Section	SHS Question	Definition	Response Categories	Sample Size
Local community decision making (citizenship).	Serv1h - Agreement - I can influence decisions affecting my local area	Serv1h is a self-reported measure of whether individuals feel that they can influence decisions in their local area.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 6 categories ranging from no opinion – strongly agree. For the analysis in this presentation responses of “no opinion” have been excluded and the categories grouped into three: agree (strongly / tend to agree), disagree (tend to / strongly disagree) and neither agree nor disagree.	9,630
	Serv1i - Agreement - I would like to be more involved in the decisions my council makes that affect my local area.	Serv1i is a self-reported measure of whether individuals want to be more involved in decision making in their local area.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 6 categories ranging from no opinion – strongly agree. For the analysis in this presentation responses of “no opinion” have been excluded and the categories grouped into three: agree (strongly / tend to agree), disagree (tend to / strongly disagree) and neither agree nor disagree.	9,630

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) fields.

Section	SHS Question	Definition	Response Categories	Sample Size
Local community and individuals social networks	Rb4da - Agreement - could rely on friends/relatives in neighbourhood for help?	Rb4da is a self-reported measure of whether individuals feel that they could rely on friends or neighbours for help.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 5 categories ranging from strongly disagree – strongly agree. For the analysis the categories are grouped into three: agree (strongly / tend to agree), disagree (tend to / strongly disagree) and neither agree nor disagree.	9,630
	Rb4db - Agreement - could rely on friends/relatives in neighbourhood to look after home?	Rb4da is a self-reported measure of whether individuals feel that they could rely on friends or neighbours to look after their home.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 5 categories ranging from strongly disagree – strongly agree. For the analysis the categories are grouped into three: agree (strongly / tend to agree), disagree (tend to / strongly disagree) and neither agree nor disagree.	9,630

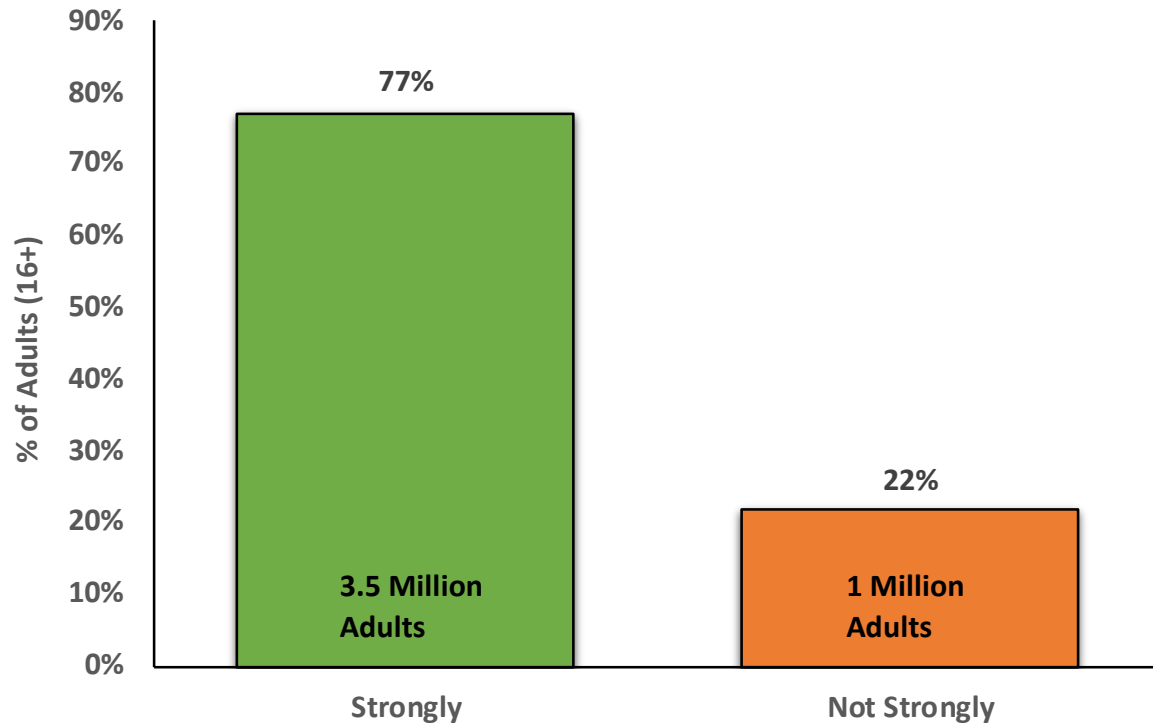
2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) fields.

Section	SHS Question	Definition	Response Categories	Sample Size
Local community and individuals social networks	Rb4dc - Agreement - could turn to friends/relatives in neighbourhood for advice or support?	Rb4da is a self-reported measure of whether individuals feel that they could rely on friends or neighbours for advice and support.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 5 categories ranging from strongly disagree – strongly agree. For the analysis the categories are grouped into three: agree (strongly / tend to agree), disagree (tend to / strongly disagree) and neither agree nor disagree.	9,630
	Rb4dd- Agreement - would offer help to neighbours in an emergency?	Rb4da is a self-reported measure of whether individuals feel that they would offer help to their neighbours in an emergency.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 5 categories ranging from strongly disagree – strongly agree. For the analysis the categories are grouped into three: agree (strongly / tend to agree), disagree (tend to / strongly disagree) and neither agree nor disagree.	9,630

3. Belonging to immediate neighbourhood.

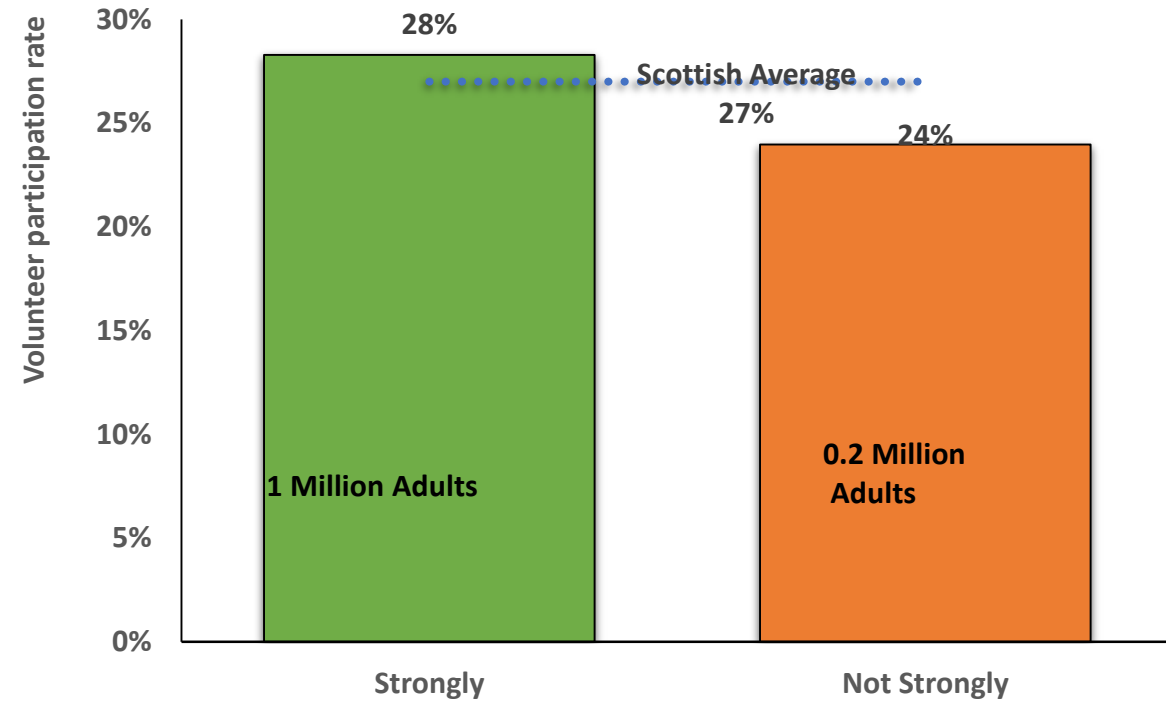
Belonging to local neighbourhood – Scottish population

Belonging to immediate neighbourhood - Scottish Population



More than three quarters of Scottish adults (77%) have a strong feeling of belonging to their local neighbourhood.

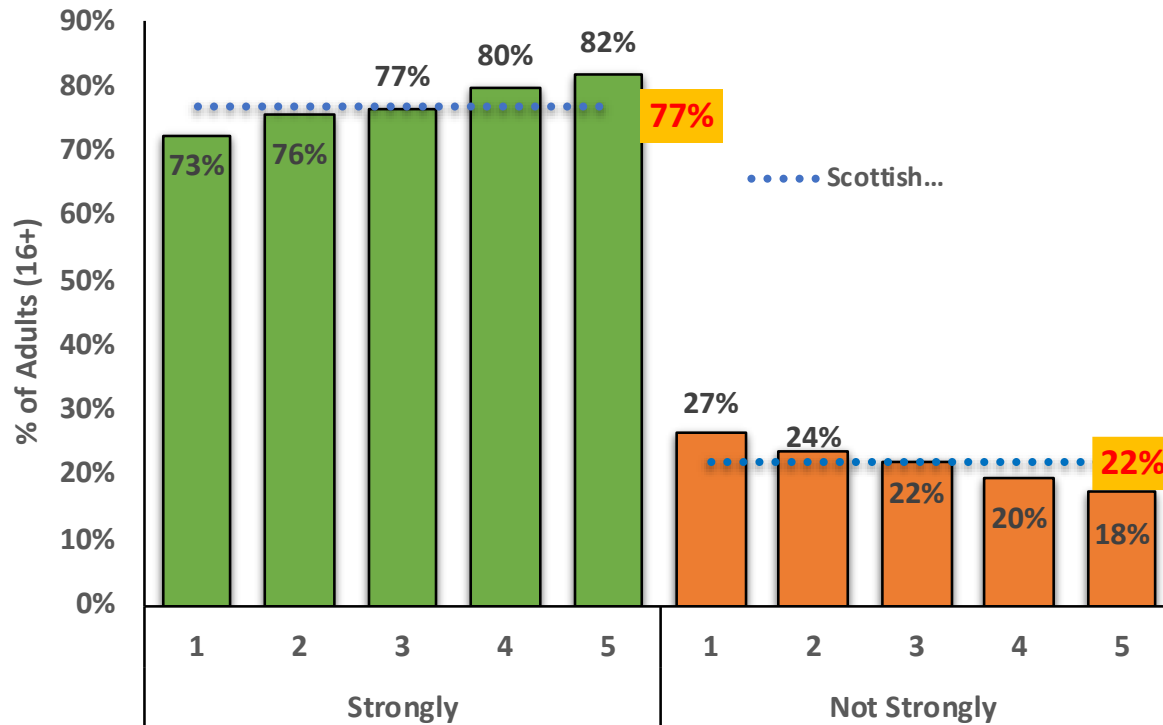
Volunteer Participation and Belonging to immediate neighbourhood - Scottish Population



- 1% higher than the Scottish average for adults who have a strong feeling of belonging to their local neighbourhood.
- 3% lower than the Scottish average for who do not have a strong feeling of belonging to their local neighbourhood.

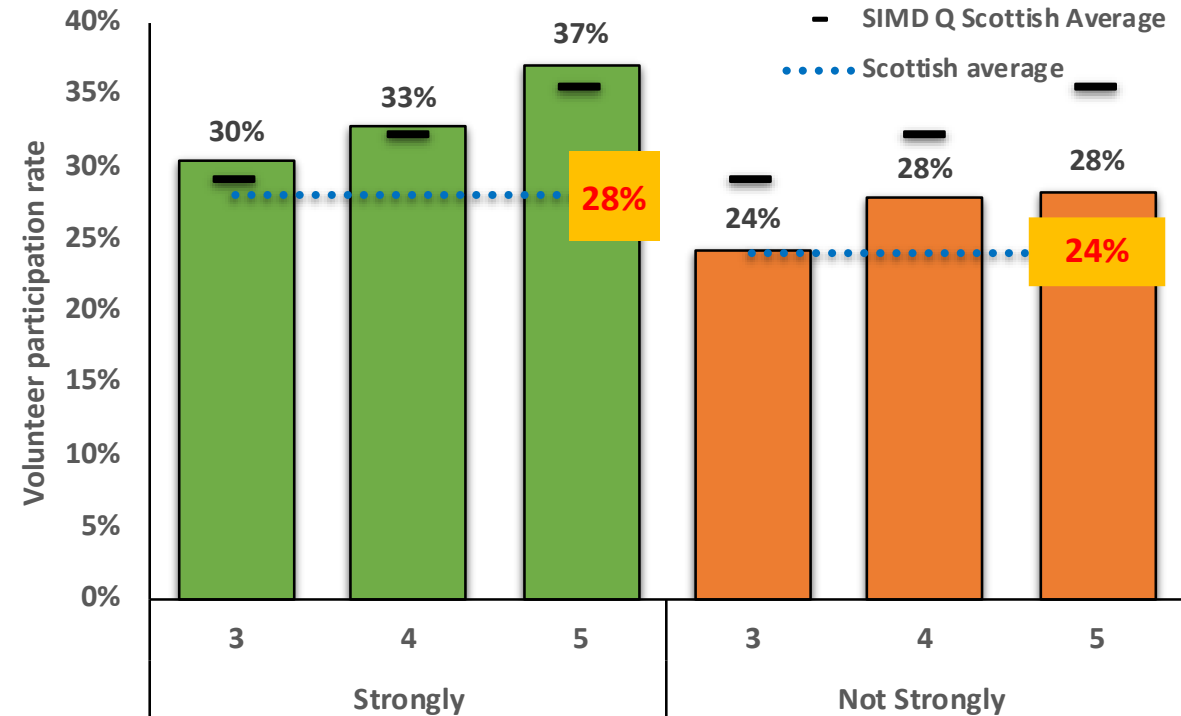
Belonging to local neighbourhood – SIMD Q

Belonging to immediate neighbourhood - SIMD Q



Adults in SIMD Q1 and Q2 have a higher percentage of adults that do not feel strongly that they belong to their immediate neighbourhood than the Scottish average.

Volunteer participation and belonging to immediate neighbourhood- SIMD Q

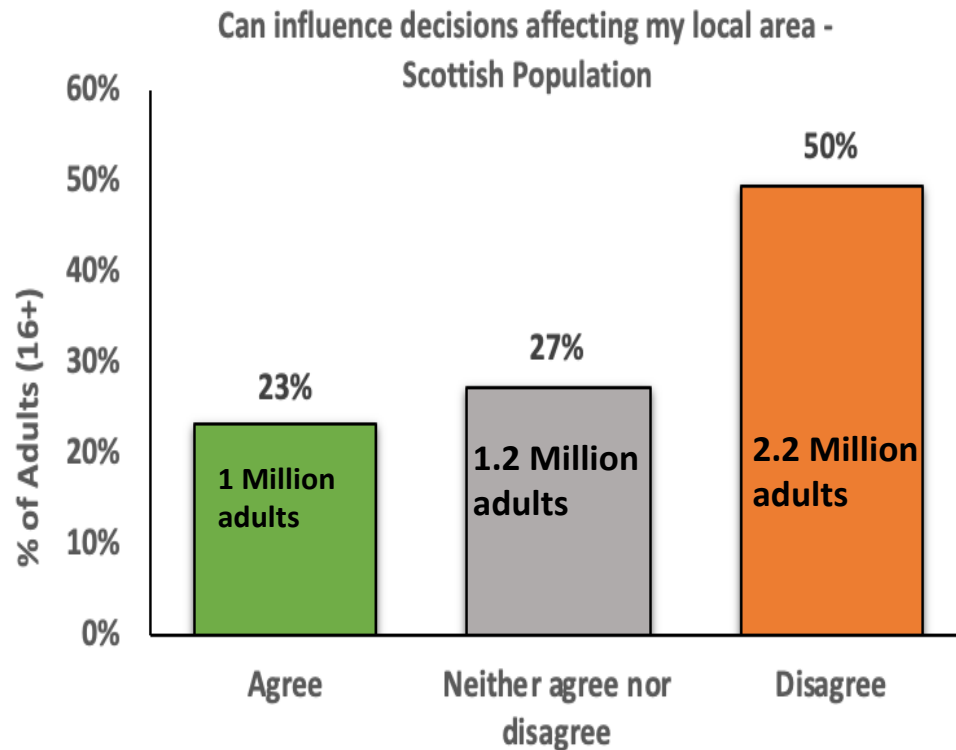


The relationship between belonging to immediate neighbourhood and volunteer participation is only statistically significant for SIMD Q3 –Q5.

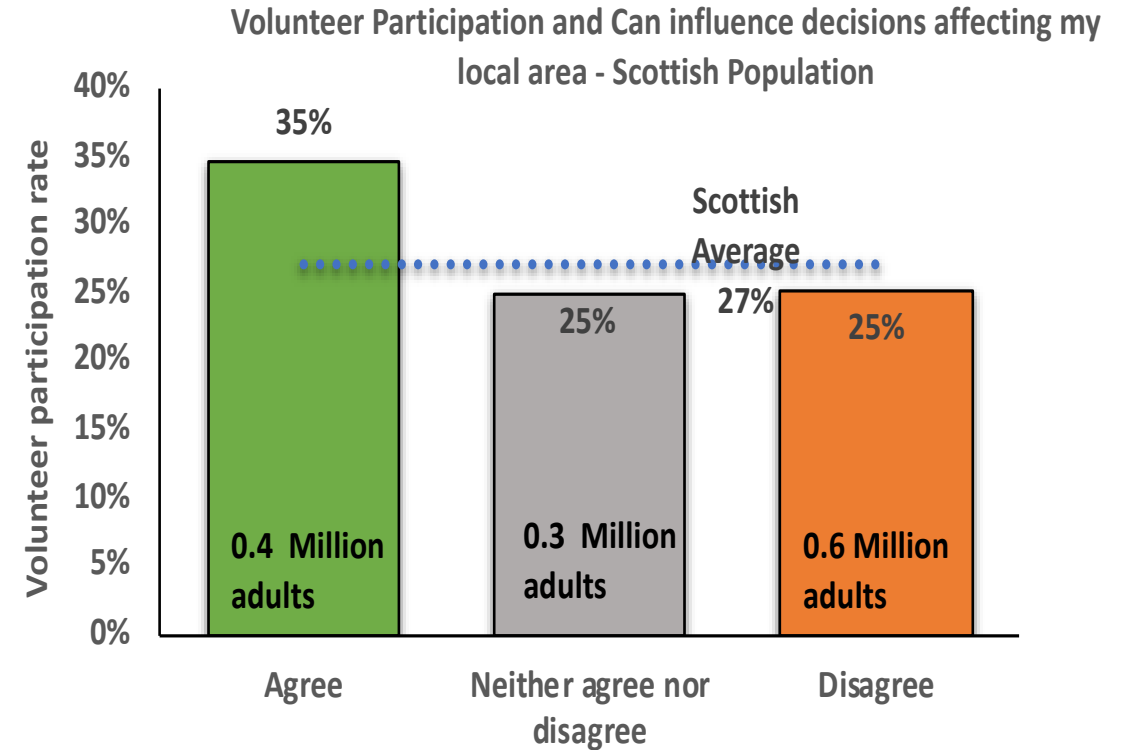
Participation rates for SIMD Q3 – Q5 are lower than their overall Scottish quintile participation rate for adults who do not feel a strong sense of belonging to their immediate neighbourhood and above average for adults who feel a strong sense of belonging.

4. Local community decision making (Citizenship)

Local community decision making



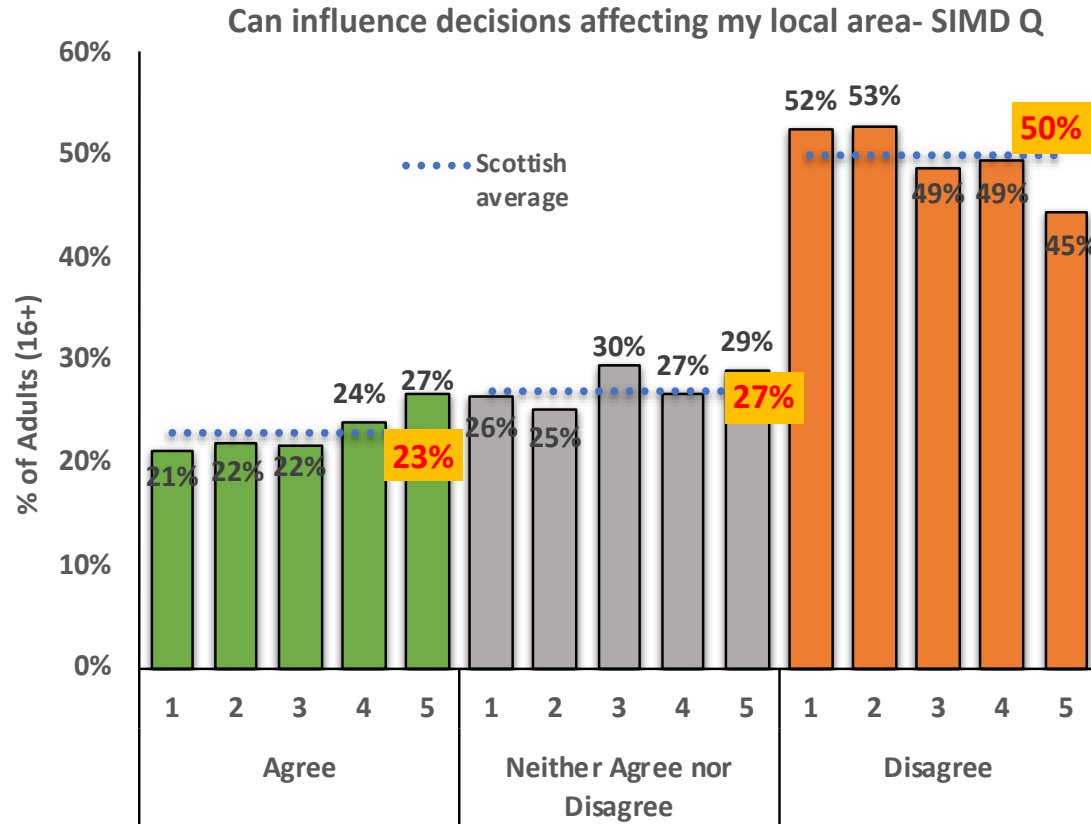
Less than a quarter of adults (23%) agree that they can influence decision making in their local area.



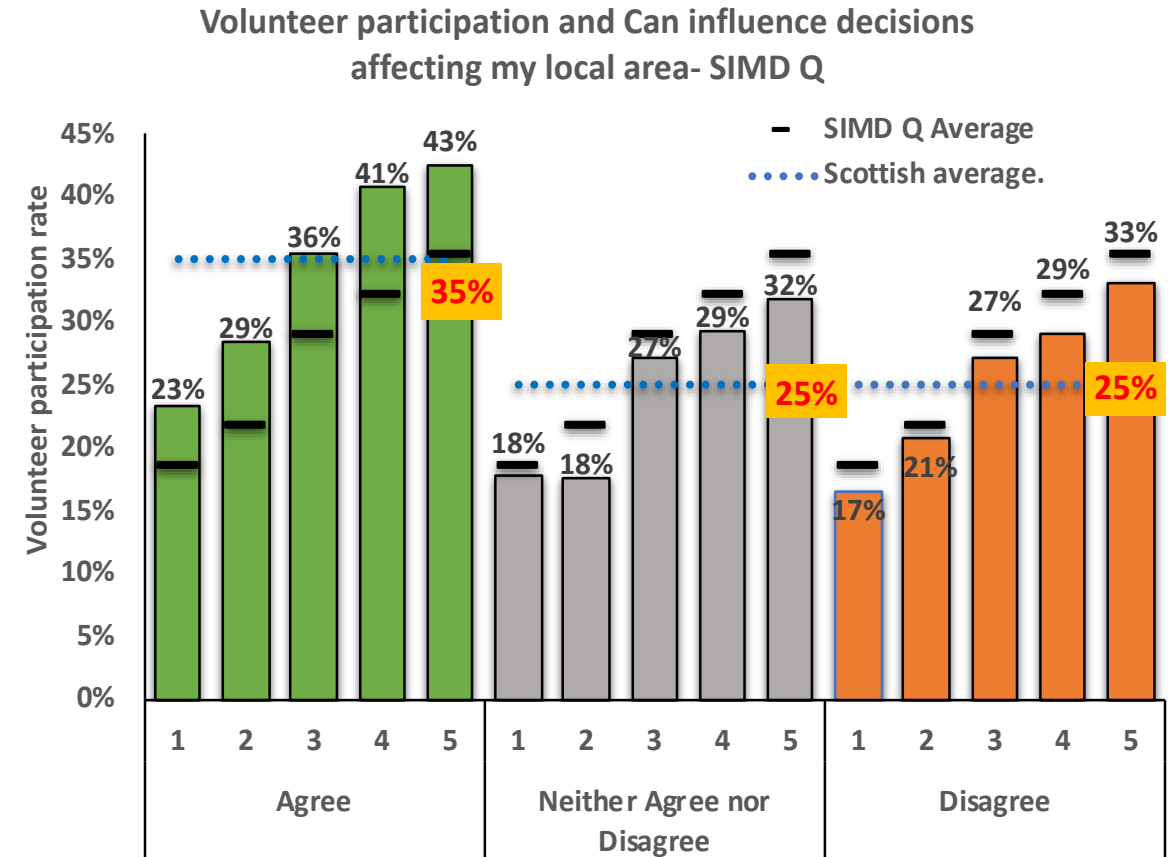
Participation rates are:

- 8% higher than the Scottish average where adults feel that they can influence decision making in their local area.
- 2% lower than the Scottish average where adults do not feel they can influence decision making in their local area.

Local community decision making

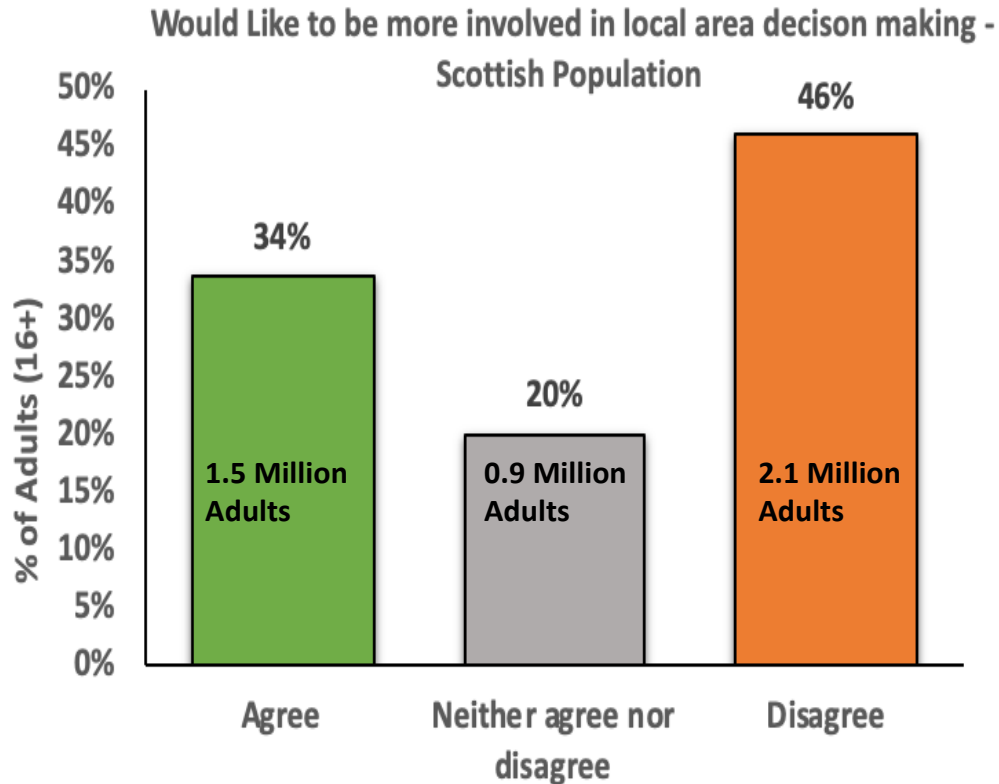


Adults in SIMD Q1 and SIMD Q2 have a higher percentage of adults who do not feel that they can influence decision making in their local area than the Scottish average.

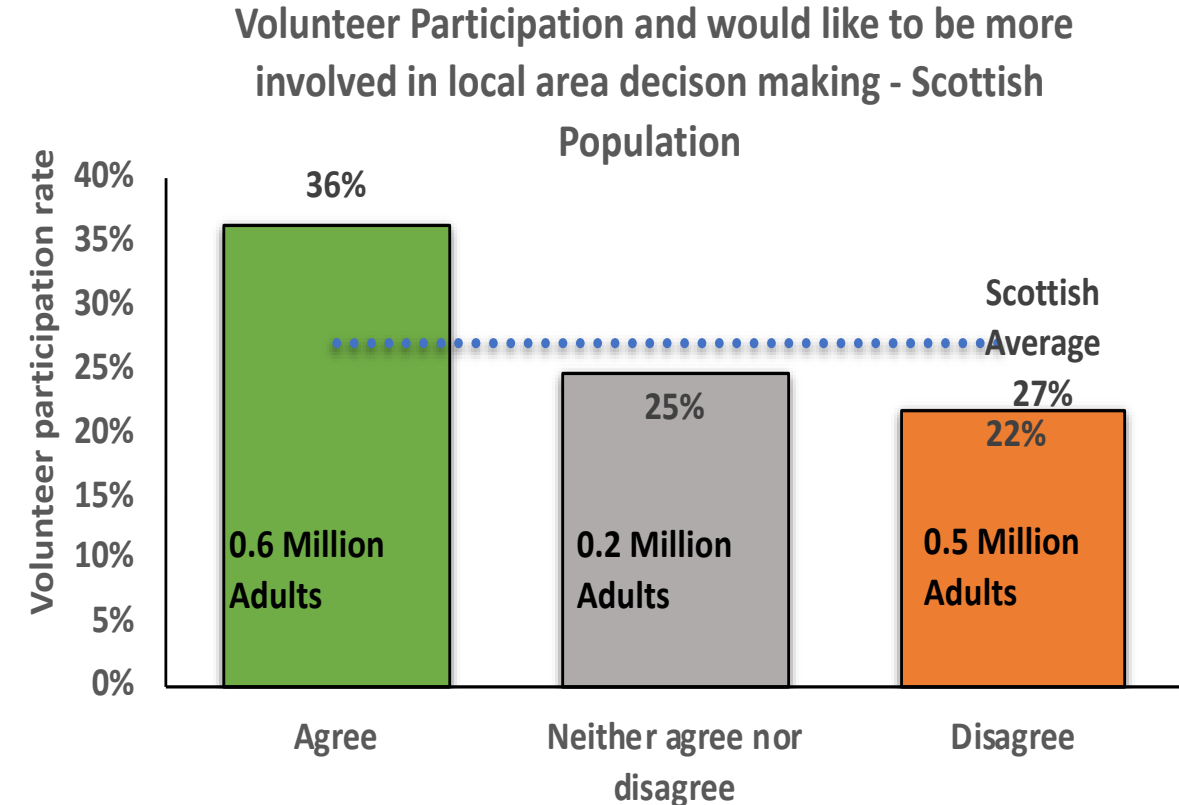


The participation rates for SIMD Q1 and Q2 are below the average Scottish participation rates for adults who agree that they can influence decision making in their local area. However, the participation rates in quintiles Q1 and Q2 are higher than the overall Scottish quintile average (18% and 22%).

Local community decision making



Over one third (34%) of Scottish adults would like to be more involved in decision making in their local area.

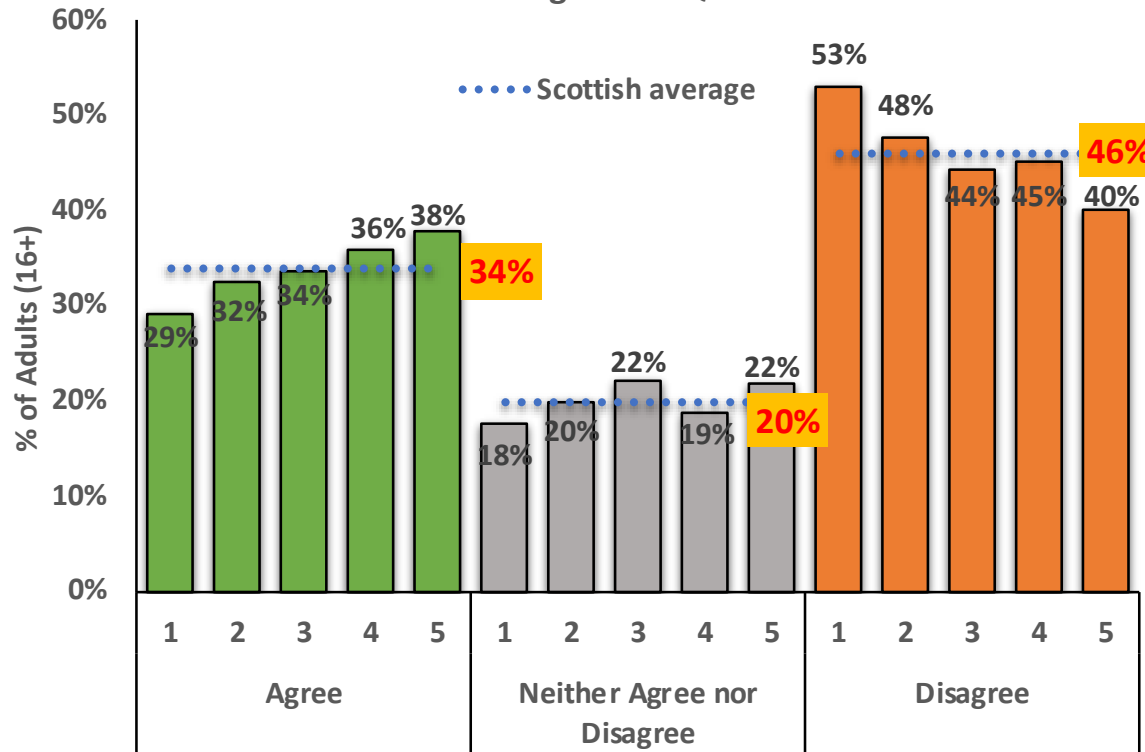


Participation rates are:

- 9% higher than the Scottish average where adults want to be more involved in local area decision making.
- 5% lower than the Scottish average where adults do not want to be more involved in local area decision making.

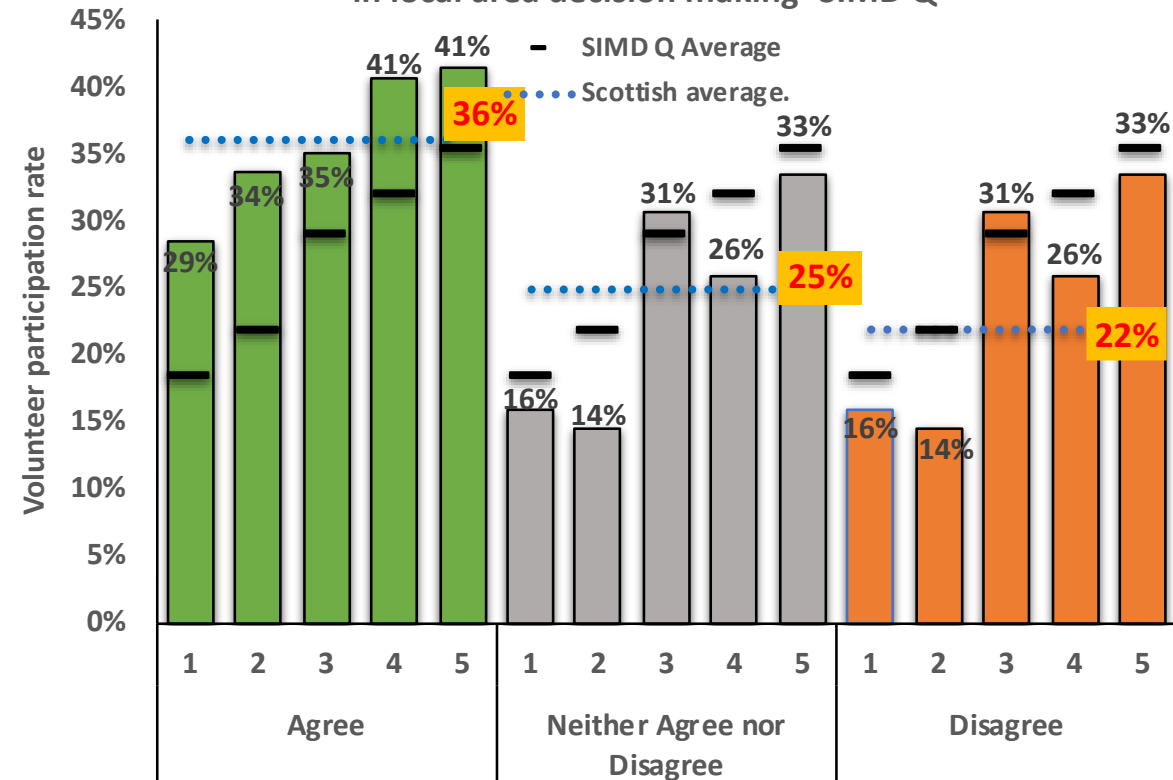
Local community decision making

Would like to be more involved in local area decision making- SIMD Q



SIMD Q1 and Q2 have a higher percentage of adults who do not want to be more involved in local area decision making than the Scottish average.

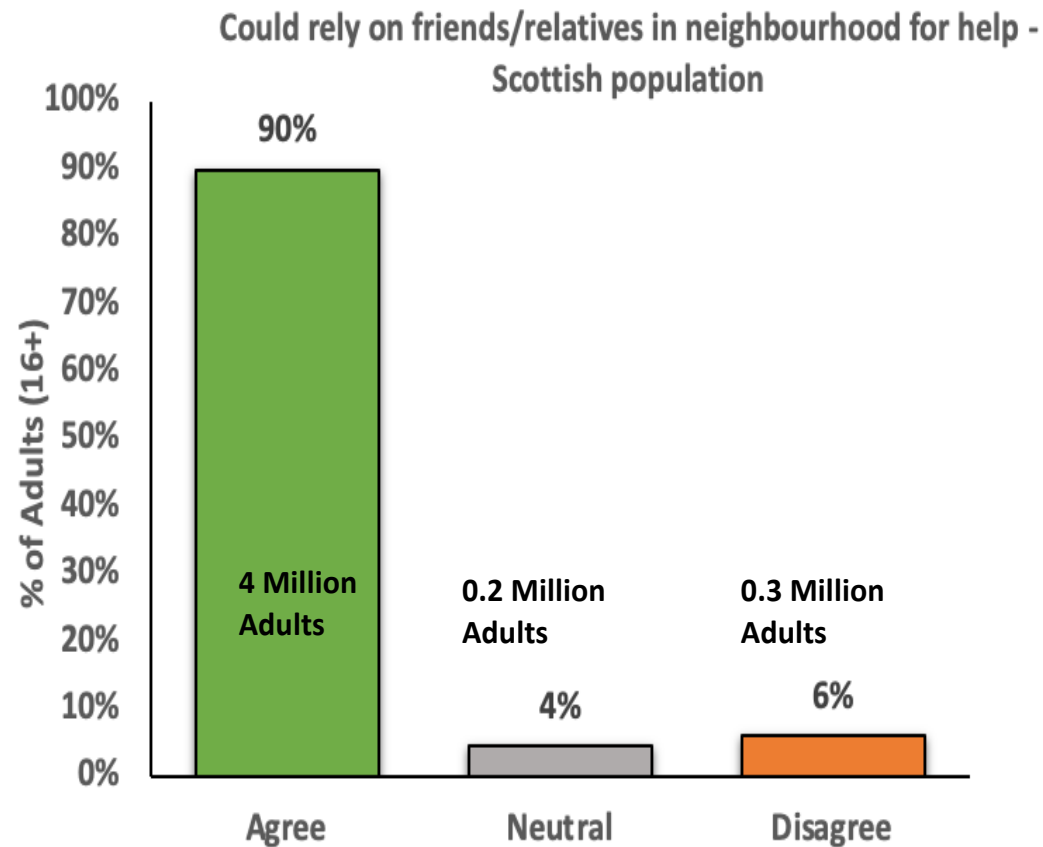
Volunteer participation and Would like to be more involved in local area decision making- SIMD Q



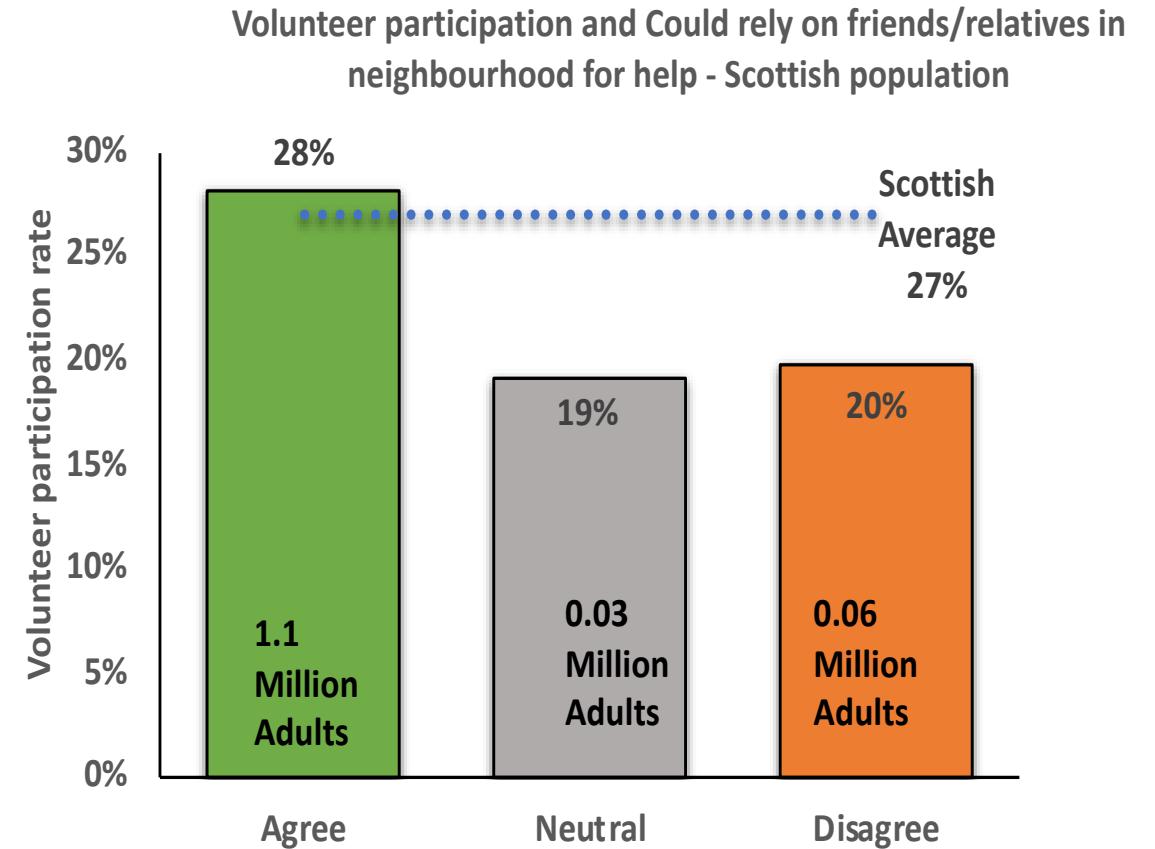
SIMD Q1 to Q3 have lower participation rates than the Scottish average for adults who want to be more involved in local area decision making. However the participation rates are higher than their overall Scottish average quintile participation rates (18%, 22% and 29%).

5. Local Community and individuals' social networks

Local community and individuals' social networks



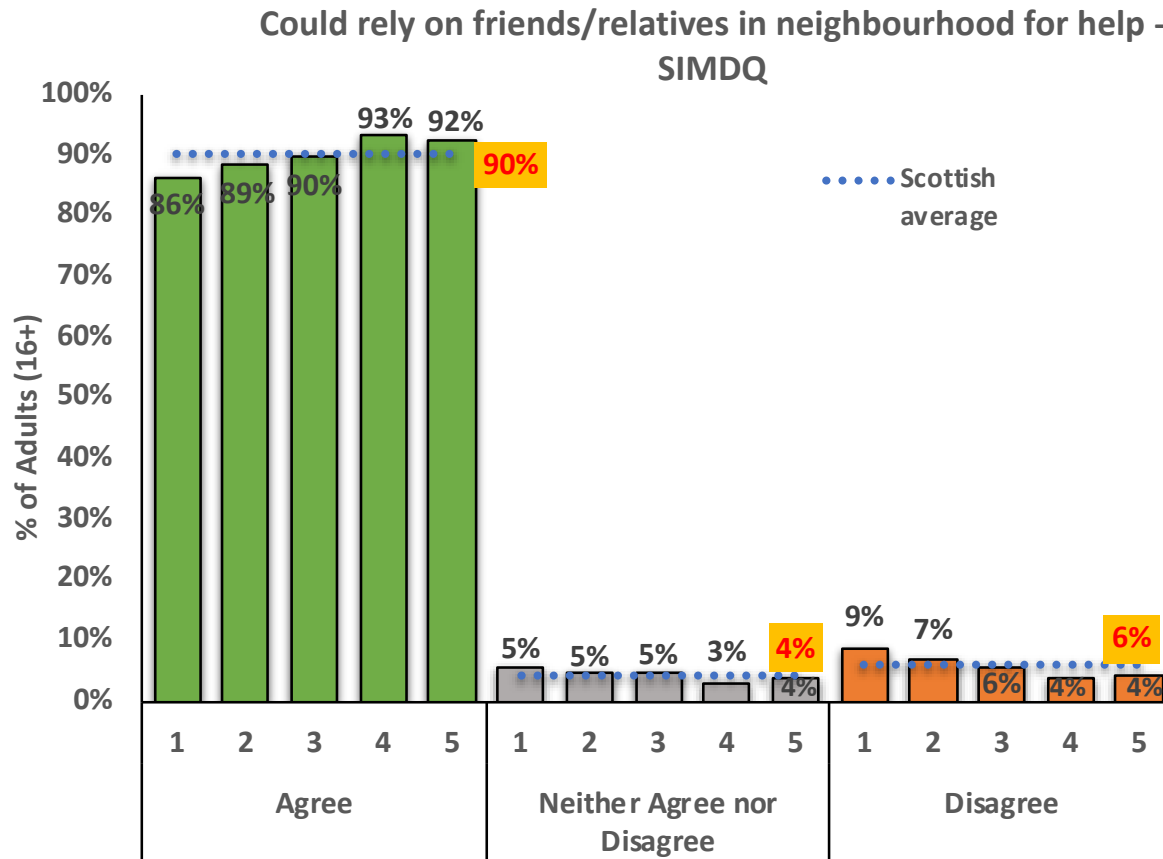
90% of Scottish adults could rely on friends or relatives in their local community for help.



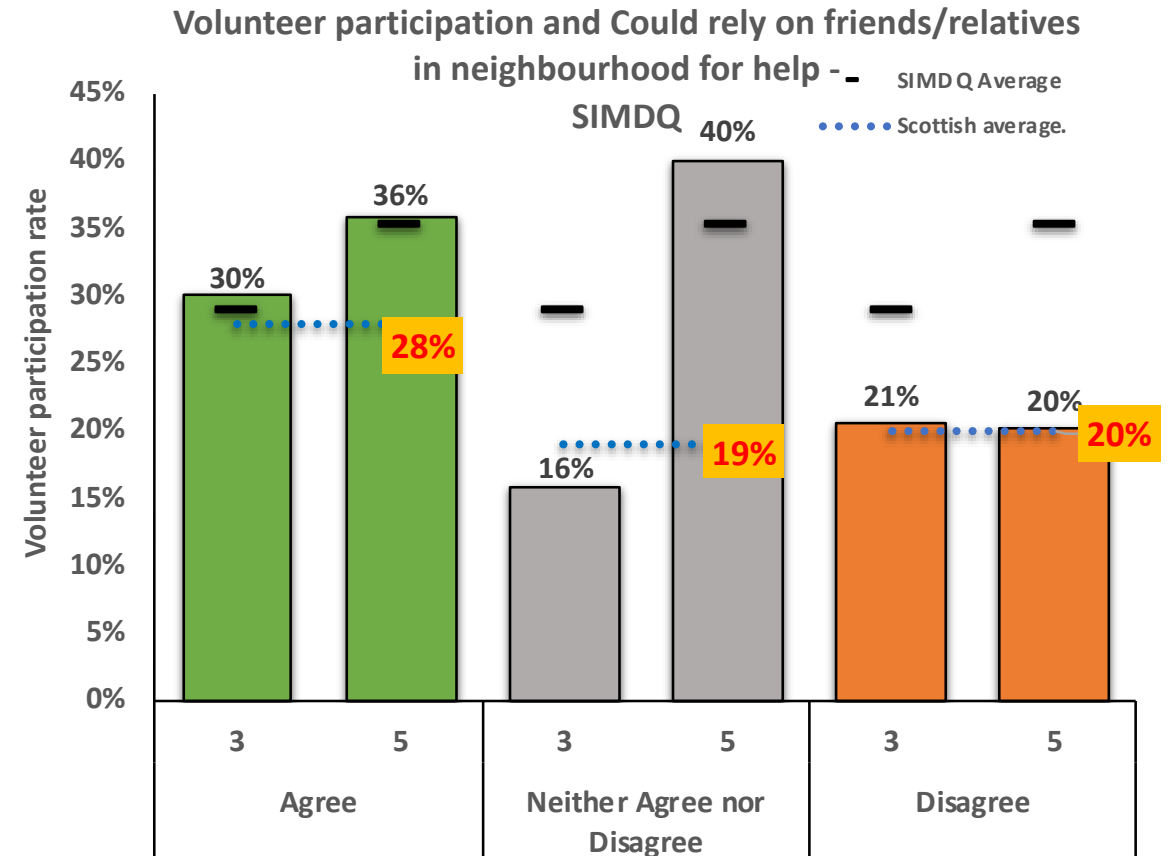
Participation rates are:

- 1% higher for adults who can rely on friends or relatives in their local community for help.
- 7% lower for adults who cannot rely on friends and relatives in their local community for help.

Local community and individuals' social networks

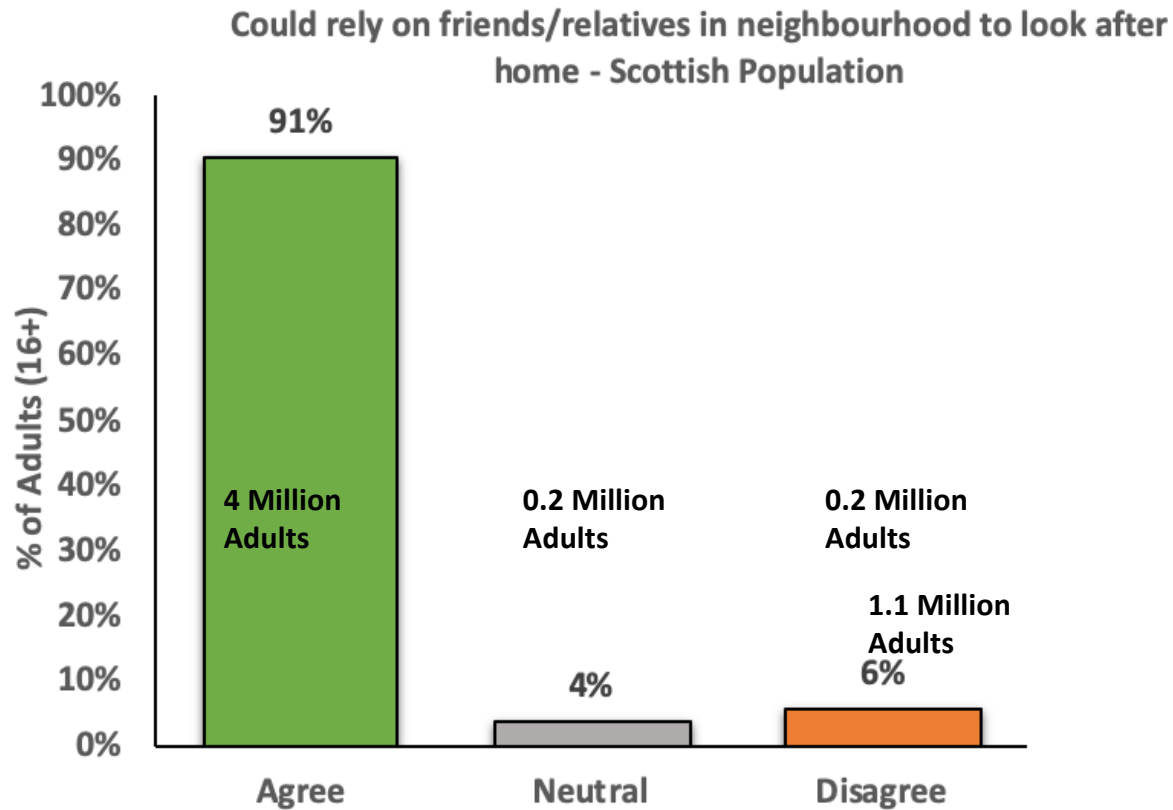


A lower percentage of adults in SIMD Q1 and Q2 could reply on friends and relatives in their local community for help than the Scottish average.

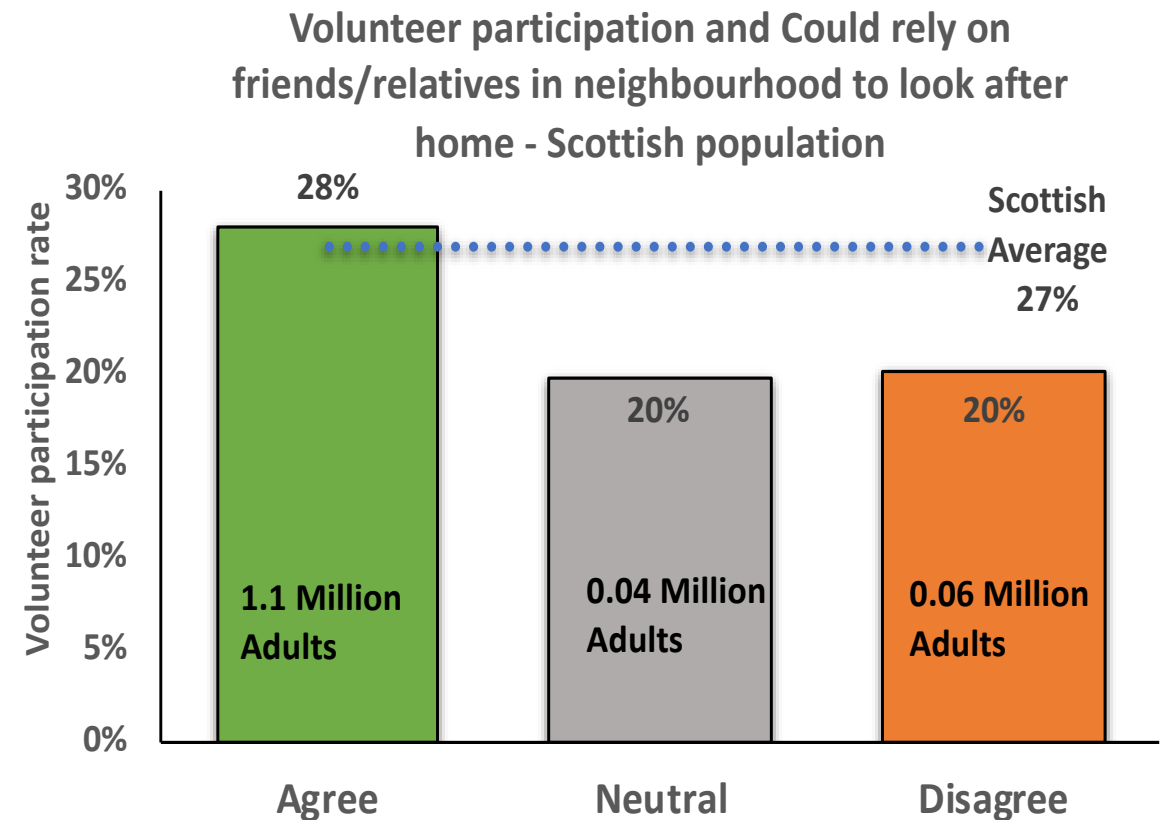


The relationship between 'could rely on friends/ relatives in neighbourhood for help' and volunteer participation is only statistically significant in SIMD Q3 and Q5, where participation rates for adults who cannot rely on friends or relatives in their local area for help are lower than their overall Scottish quintile average.

Local community and individuals' social networks



91% of Scottish adults could rely on friends or relatives in their local community to look after their home.

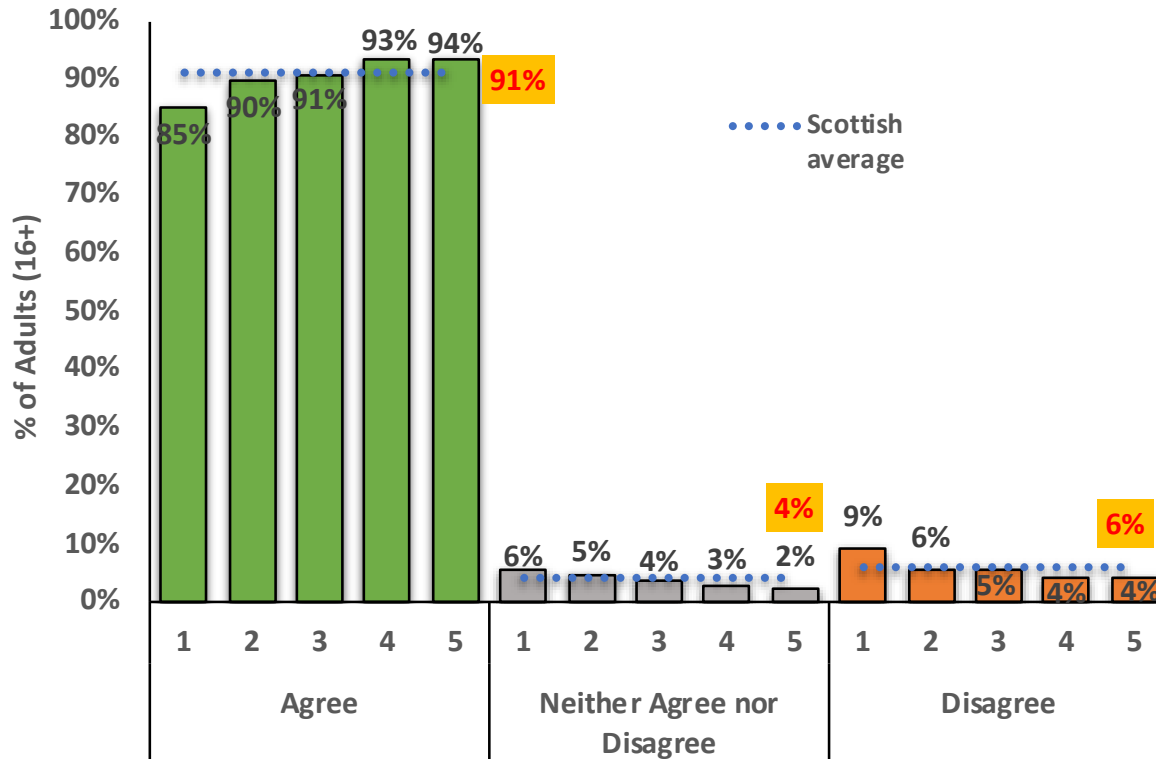


Participation rates are:

- 1% higher for adults who can rely on friends or relatives in their local community to look after their home.
- 7% lower for adults who cannot rely on friends and relatives in their local community to look after their home.

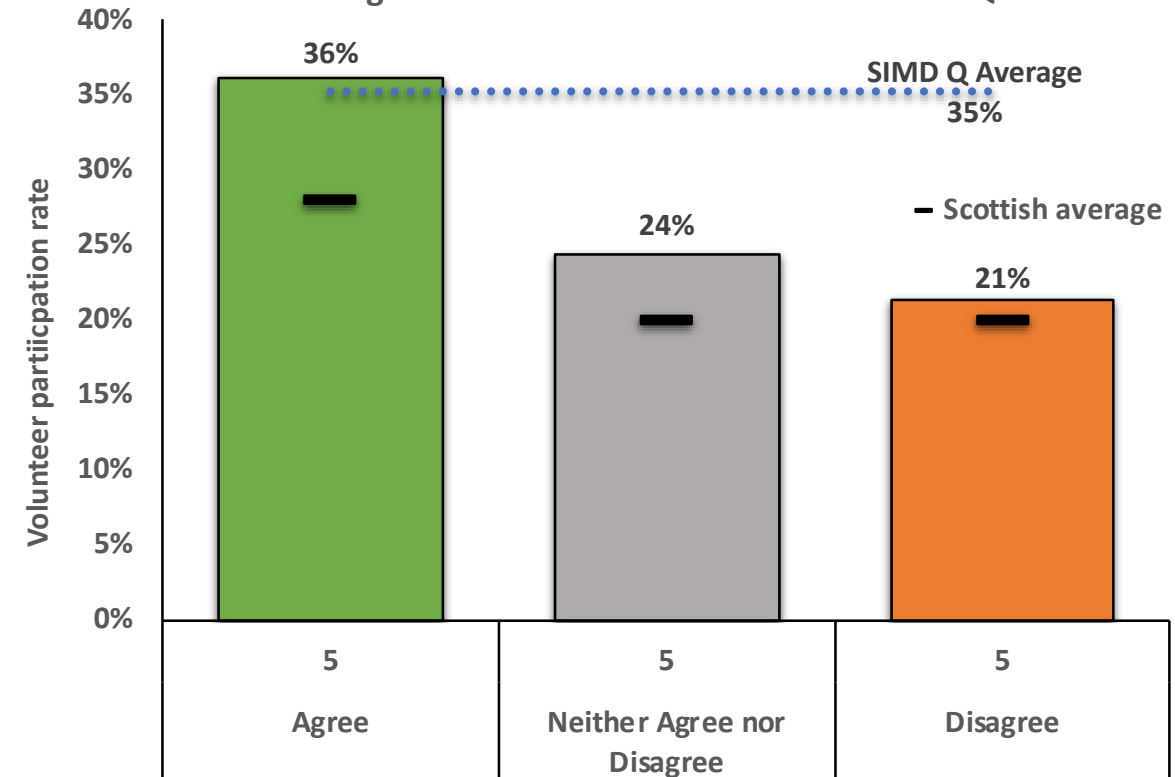
Local community and individuals' social networks

Could rely on friends/relatives in neighbourhood to look after home - SIMDQ



A lower percentage of adults in SIMD Q1 and Q2 could rely on friends and relatives in their local community to look after their home than the Scottish average.

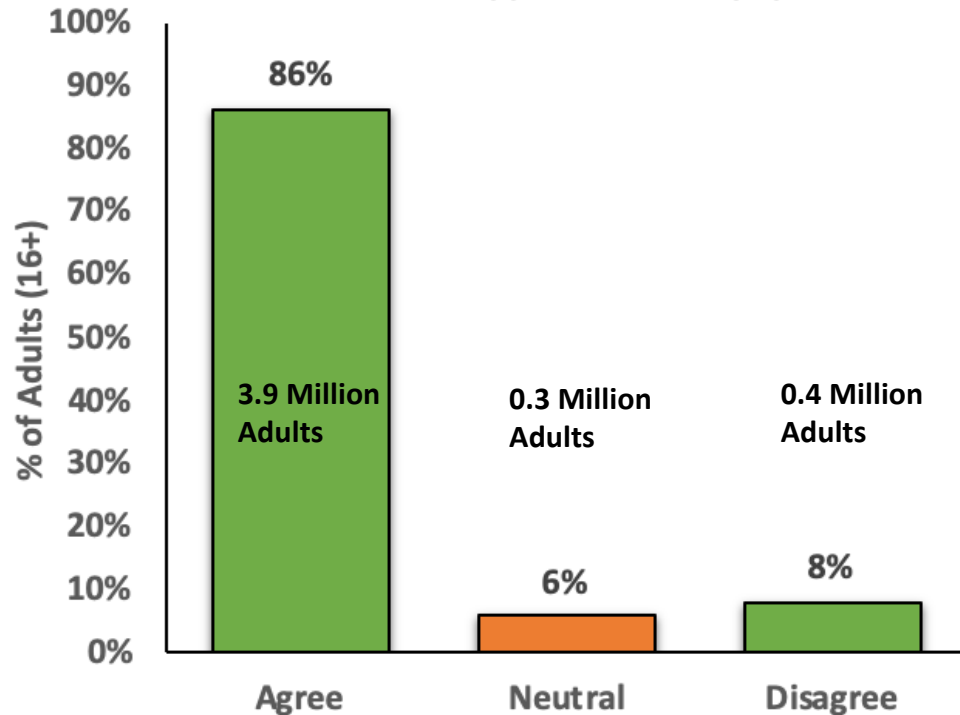
Volunteer participation and Could rely on friends/relatives in neighbourhood to look after home- SIMDQ



The relationship between 'could rely on friends/ relatives to look after home' and volunteer participation is only statistically significant in SIMD Q5, where participation rates for adults who cannot rely on friends or relatives in their local area to look after their home are lower than their overall Scottish quintile average (35%).

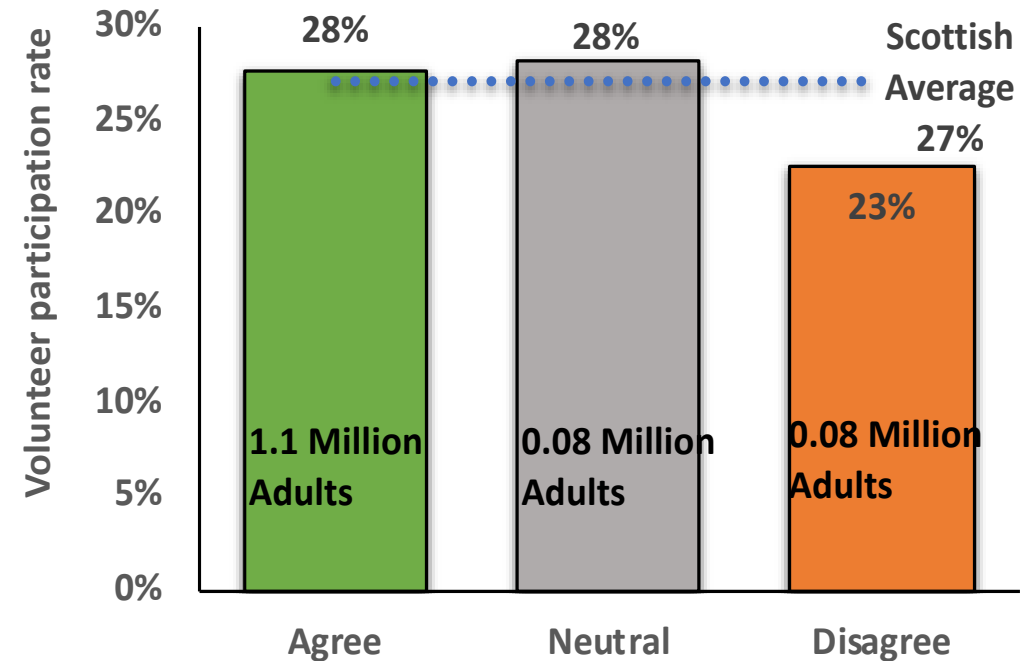
Local community and individuals' social networks

Could turn to friends/relatives in neighbourhood for advice or support - Scottish population



86% of the Scottish population can turn to friends and relatives in their local community for advice or support.

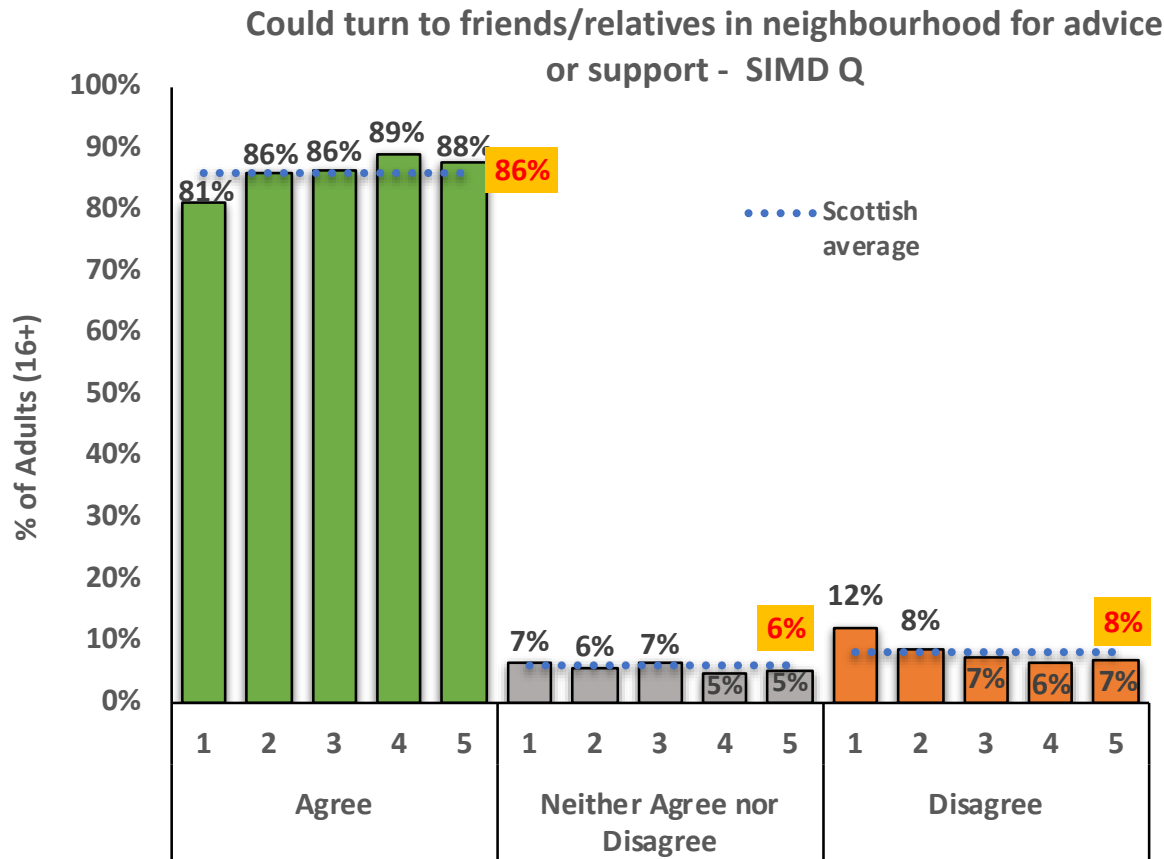
Volunteer participation and Could turn to friends/relatives in neighbourhood for advice or support - Scottish population



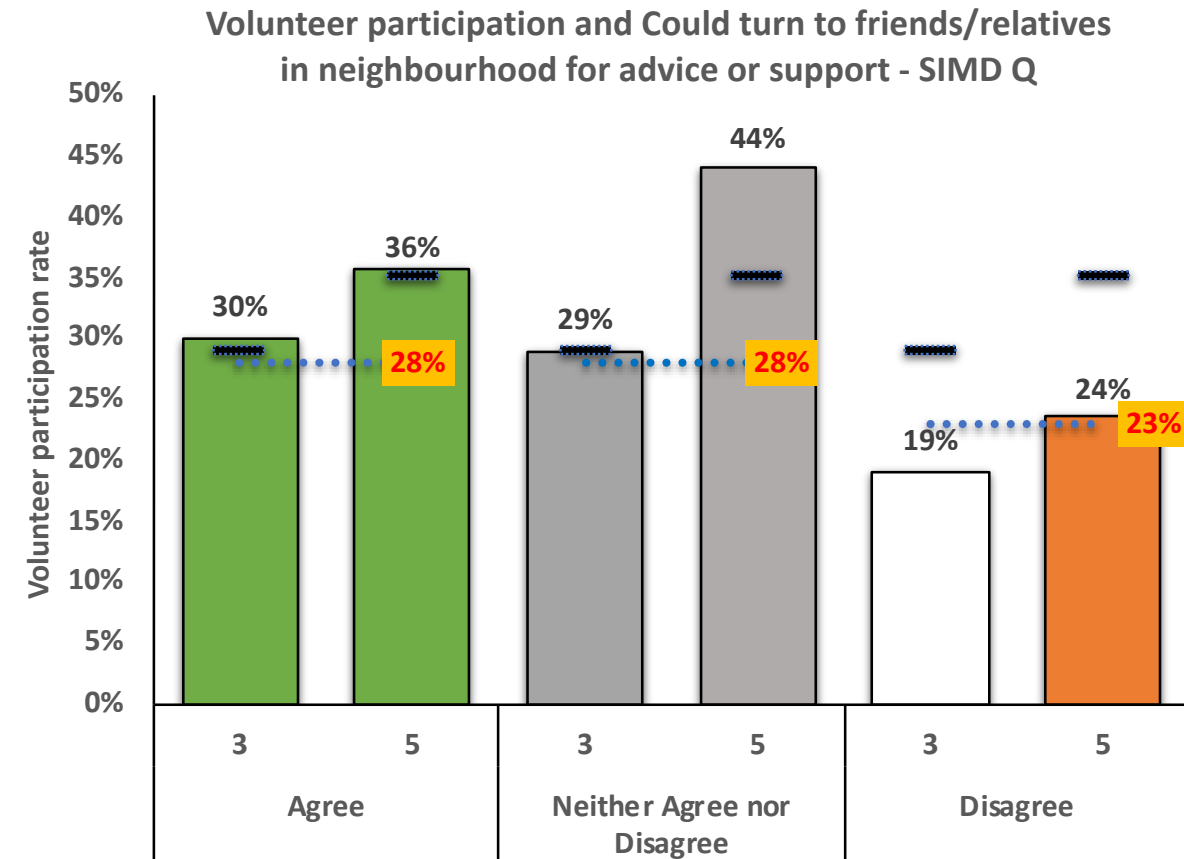
Participation rates are:

- 1% higher for adults who can turn to friends or relatives in their local community for advice or support.
- 4% lower for adults who cannot turn to friends and relatives in their local community for advice or support.

Local community and individuals' social networks

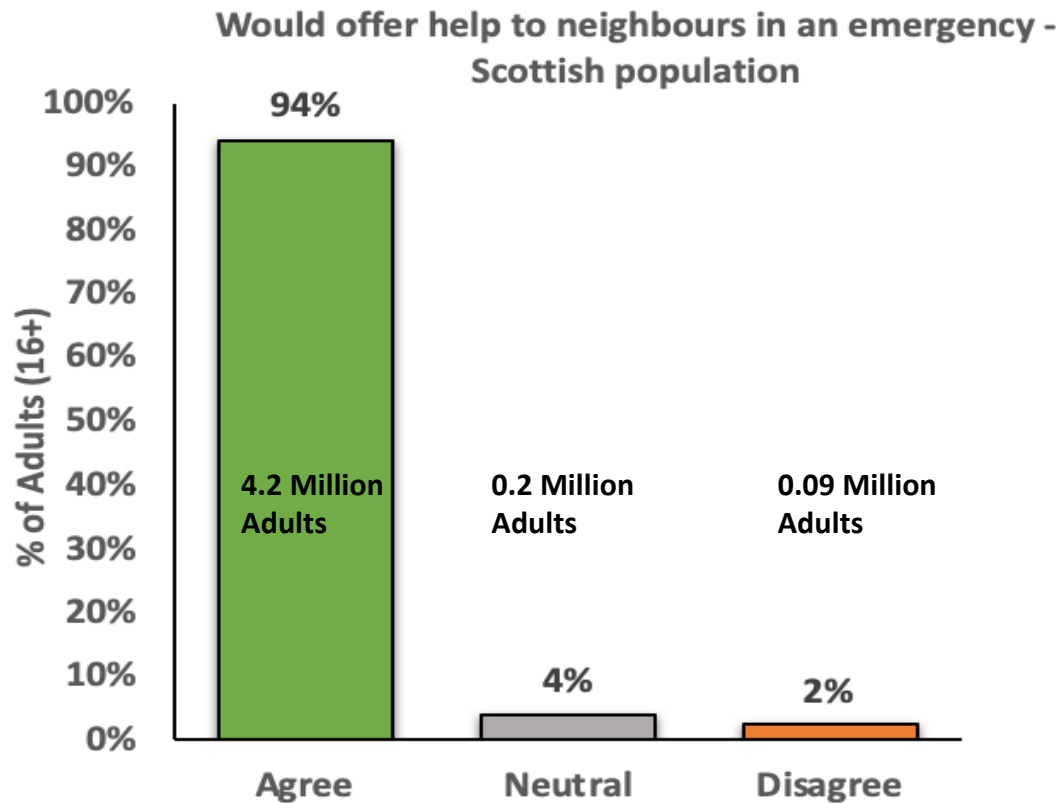


SIMD Q1 has a lower percentage of adults that could turn to friends or relatives in their local community for advice or support than the Scottish average.

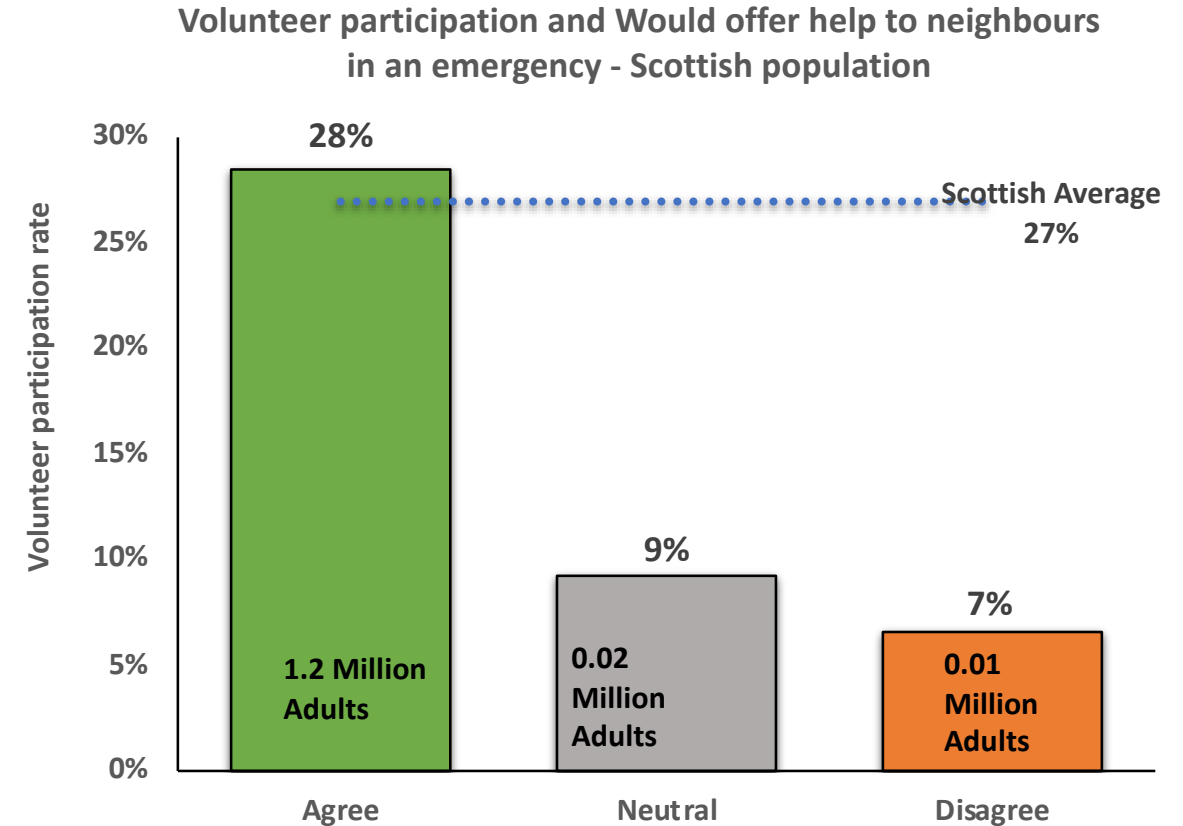


The relationship between 'could turn to friends/ relatives for advice / support' and volunteer participation is only statistically significant in SIMD Q3 and Q5, where participation rates are below the quintile average for adults that could not turn to friends or relatives in their local area for advice or support.

Local community and individuals' social networks

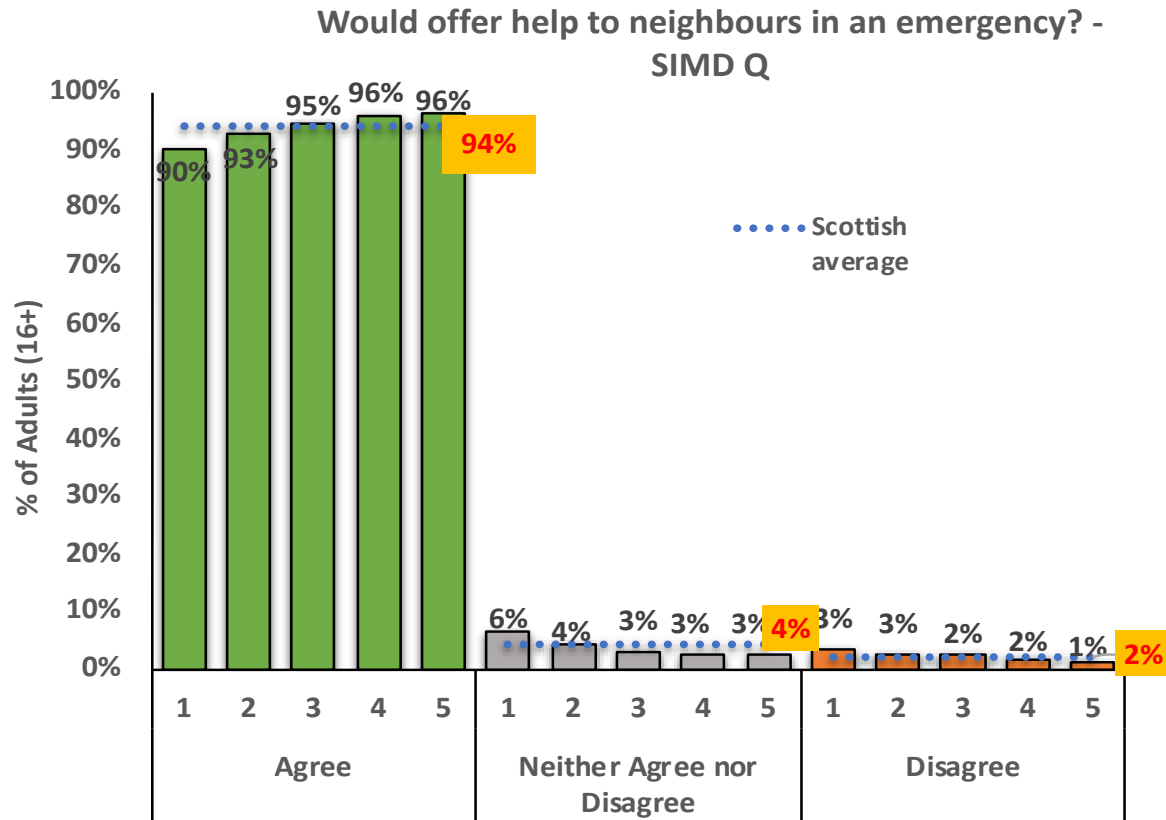


94% of the Scottish population would offer help to their neighbours in an emergency.

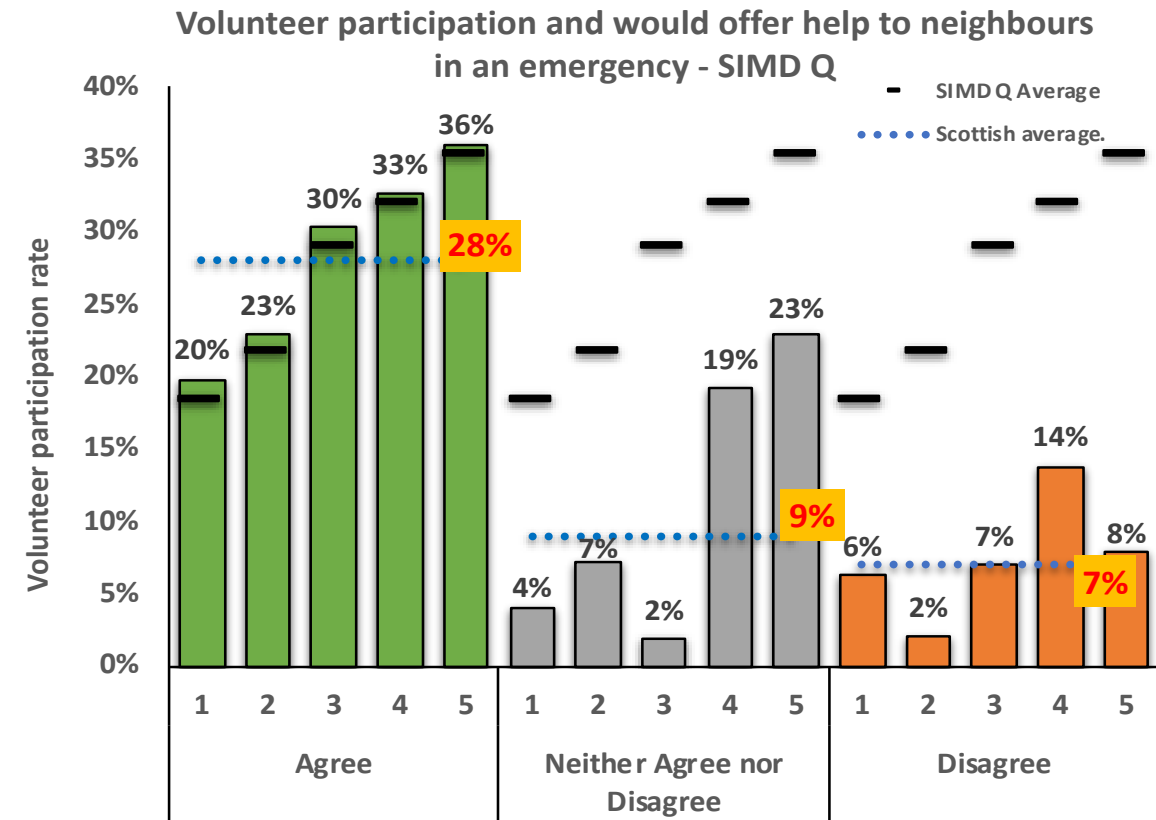


Participation rates for adults who would offer help to their neighbours in an emergency is 1% higher than the Scottish average, compared to 20% lower for adults who would not offer help.

Local community and individuals social networks



A lower percentage of adults in SIMD Q1 and Q2 would offer help to their neighbours in an emergency than the Scottish average.



Participation rates for SIMD Q1 and Q2 are lower than the Scottish average for adults who would offer help to their neighbours in an emergency. However their participation rates are higher than their overall Scottish quintile average (18% and 22%).

Participation rates for all quintiles is lower than their overall Scottish quintile average where adults would not offer help to their neighbours in an emergency.

6. Summary Highlights

Summary highlights – Scottish Level

Volunteer participation rates are higher than the Scottish average (27%) for adults who:

- Strongly feel that they belong to their immediate neighbourhood (1% higher).
- Agree that they can influence decision making affecting their local area. (8% higher).
- Would like to be more involved in local area decision making (9% higher).
- Can rely on friends or relatives in their local community for help (1% higher).
- Can rely on friends or relatives in their local community to look after their home (1% higher).
- Can turn to friends or relatives in their local community for advice or support (1% higher).
- Would offer help to their neighbours in an emergency (1% higher).

Overall this tells us that more Scottish adults volunteer when they feel that they belong to their local community, are involved in decision making in their local community and have social networks in their local community. From this data we cannot confirm if volunteering causes increased community engagement and citizenship in volunteers, but we do see a strong relationship between community engagement, citizenship and volunteering.

Summary highlights – SIMDQ Level

When considering SIMD Q1 (the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland), this quintile has:

- A higher percentage of adults that do not feel strongly that they belong to their immediate neighbourhood.
- A higher percentage of adults that do not agree that they can influence decision making affecting their local area.
- A higher percentage of adult who do not want to be more involved in local area decision making.
- A lower percentage of adults who can rely on friends or relatives in their local community for help.
- A lower percentage of adult who can rely on friends or relatives in their local community to look after their home.
- A lower percentage of adults who can turn to friends or relatives in their local community for advice or support.
- A lower percentage of adults that would offer help to their neighbours in an emergency.

Summary highlights – SIMDQ Level

Participation rates in SIMD Q1 are higher than the Scottish average SIMD Q1 participation rate for the following :

- Adults who agree that they can influence decision making affecting their local area (5% higher).
- Adults who want to be more involved in local area decision making (11% higher).
- Adults who would offer help to their neighbours in an emergency (2% higher).

Appendix 3 – References

O'Donnell, G., Deaton, A., Durand, M., Halpern & D, Layard, R. (2014), Wellbeing & policy, Legatum Institute

Boyle, D., Coote, A., Sherwood, C. & Slay, J. (2010) Right Here, Right Now: Taking co- production into the mainstream. London, NESTA