

Scottish Household Survey

Volunteering Cross-sectional Analysis: Neighbourhood Characteristics

Debbie Maltman & Matthew Linning
Volunteer Scotland, Research and Evaluation



www.volunteerscotland.org.uk



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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 neighbourhood characteristics 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.



- A recent study by NCVO, [Time Well spent – A national survey of the volunteer experience](#) found that 81% of volunteers give time locally, in their own neighbourhoods. Which leads to the question: How do volunteer participation rates vary with different neighbourhood characteristics? The SHS fields selected for analysis allows analysis of the relationship between volunteer participation rates and neighbourhood characteristics.
- This presentation analyses relevant SHS neighbourhood characteristics' fields 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 that rate their neighbourhood positively is above average and those that rate their neighbourhood negatively is below average. In this case does having a positive view of your local 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 individuals' rating of their neighbourhood is recorded in a number of different categories, very good, fairly good, fairly poor and very poor.
 - Chi square testing allows us to test a hypothesis (a theory or question), e.g. volunteer participation is dependent on how individuals rate their neighbourhood against the alternative hypothesis that volunteer participation is independent of how individuals rate their neighbourhood (there is no relationship).
 - This tests whether a relationship exists between the two categorical variables analysed, for example volunteering and neighbourhood rating, 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 positively rating your neighbourhood and volunteering does not mean that volunteering causes an improved rating of your neighbourhood. Instead, it may be that those that rate their neighbourhood positively are attracted into volunteering. We just don't know.

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) Fields for Neighbourhood Characteristics

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) fields.

The SHS fields selected for analysis of ‘neighbourhood characteristics’ are:

Section	SHS Question	Definition	Response Categories	Sample Size
Neighbourhood rating	RB1 - Thinking now about the neighbourhood you live in, how would you rate it as a place to live?	RB1 is a measure of how the random adult rates their local neighbourhood.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 5 categories ranging from very good – very poor. For the analysis in this presentation responses of “no opinion” have been excluded and the categories grouped into two: 1 combining Very good and fairly good and one combining Fairly poor and very poor.	9,630
	area1 - Thinking about your local neighbourhood, do you think it has got better, stayed the same or got worse?	RB1 is a measure of how the random adult thinks that their neighbourhood has changed.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 5 categories ranging from got much better– got much worse. For the analysis in this presentation responses of “don’t know” have been excluded and the categories grouped into three: Got a little / much better, stayed the same and got a little / much worse.	9,146

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) fields.

Section	SHS Question	Definition	Response Categories	Sample Size
Neighbourhood safety and crime	ra4ac - How safe do you feel walking alone in your neighbourhood after dark?	ra4ac confirms if the random adult feels safe walking alone in their local area after dark.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 6 categories ranging from very safe – very unsafe. For the analysis in this presentation responses of “don’t know” and “no answer” have been excluded and the categories grouped into two: Very / fairly safe and Fairly / very unsafe.	9,329
	ra4ad - How safe do you feel when you are alone in your home at night?	ra4ac confirms if the random adult feels safe alone in their home at night.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 6 categories ranging from very safe – very unsafe. For the analysis in this presentation responses of “don’t know” and “no answer” have been excluded and the categories grouped into two: Very / fairly safe and Fairly / very unsafe.	9,329
	CRIMPER - How much would you say the crime rate in your local area has changed since two years ago?	crimper asks the random adult how much they feel that the crime rate has changed in their local area.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 6 categories ranging from a lot more – a lot less. For the analysis in this presentation responses of “don’t know” have been excluded and the categories grouped into three: A little / lot more, about the same and A little / lot less.	9,630

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) fields.

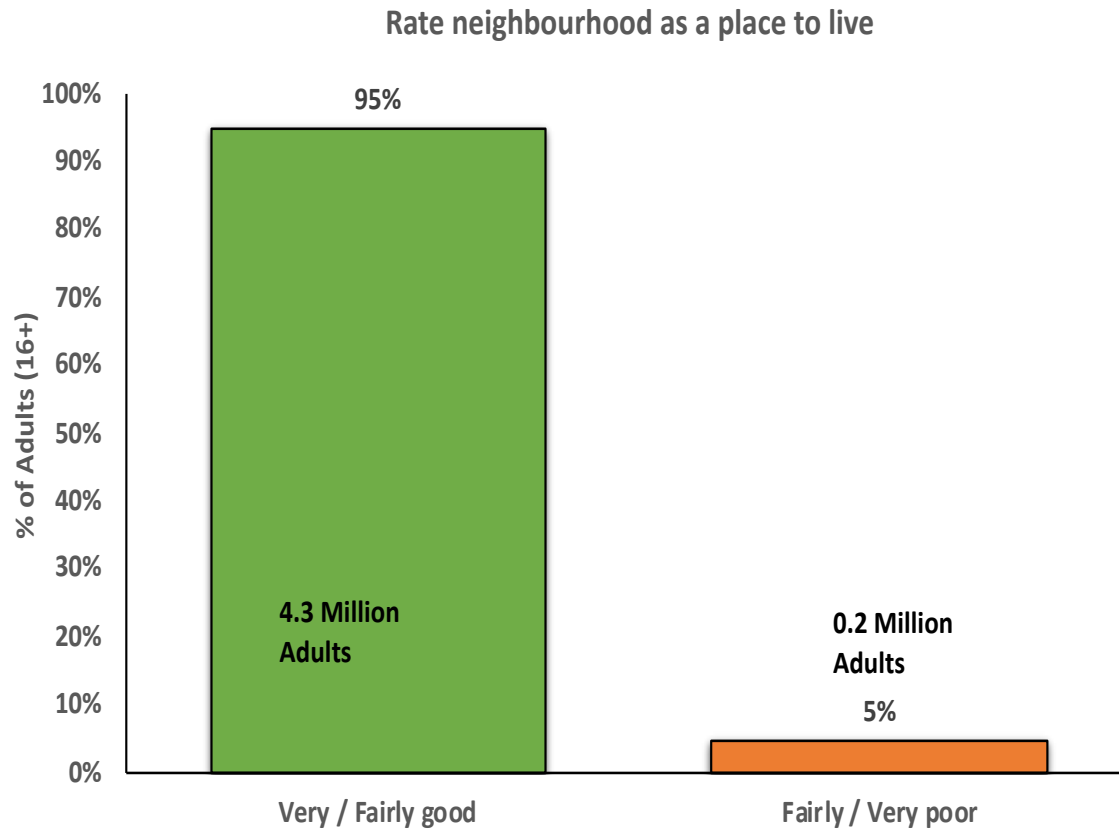
Section	SHS Question	Definition	Response Categories	Sample Size
Neighbourhood green spaces	greenfar13 - Looking at this card, how far away from your home is the nearest public green or open space?	The random adults is asked - Looking at this card, how far away from your home is the nearest public green or open space? How long would it take me to walk there?	The random adult is asked to select one of the following categories: A 5 minute walk or less , Within a 6-10 minute walk, Within an 11-20 minute walk, Within a 21-30 minute walk, More than a 30 minute walk away, Don't know. For this analysis responses of "Don't know" are excluded and responses grouped into three categories: 5 minute walk or less, 6-30 minute walk and more than 30 minute walk.	9,518

2. Scottish Household Survey (SHS) fields.

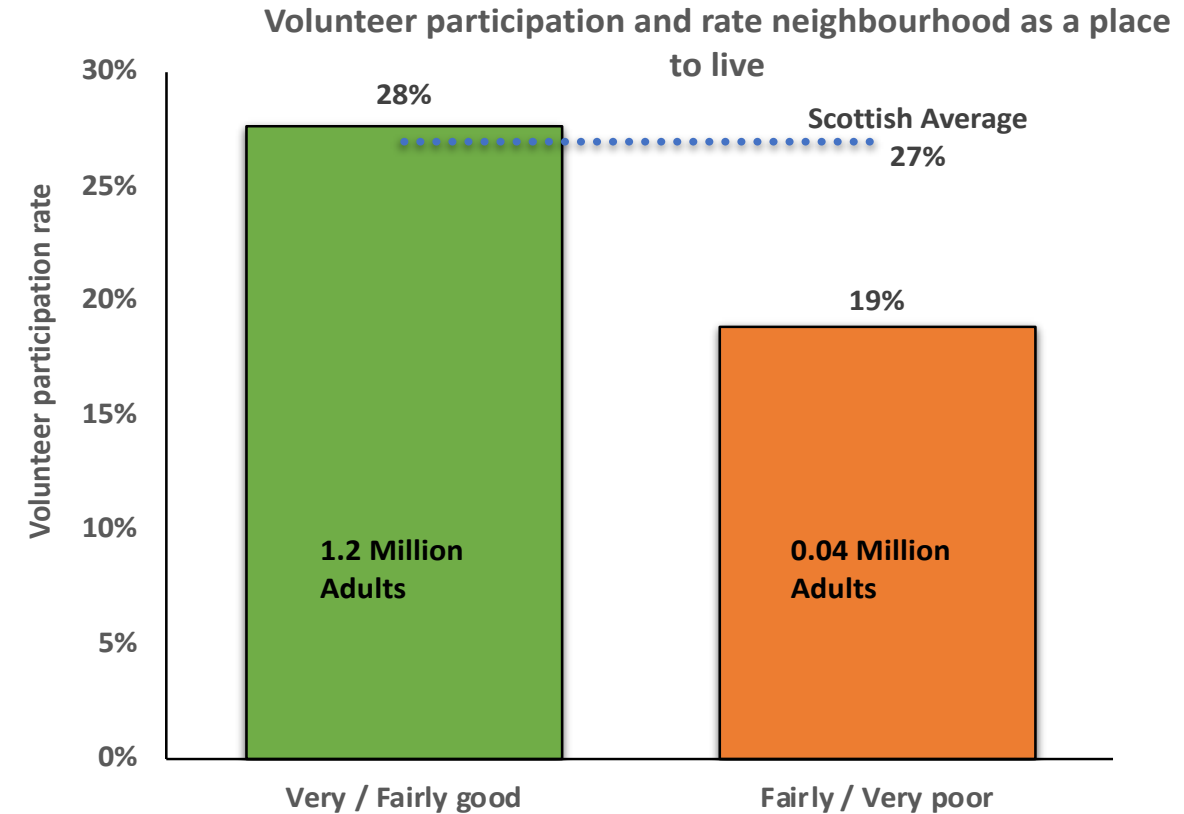
Section	SHS Question	Definition	Response Categories	Sample Size
Neighbourhood green spaces	greenuse13 - How often, if at all, do you use this space, even if just to pass through it?	The random adults is asked to confirm how often they use green spaces within their local neighbourhood.	The random adult is asked to select one of the following categories: Every day, Several times a week, Once a week, Several times a month, Once a month, Less often, Not at all , Don't know. For this analysis responses of "Don't know are excluded and responses grouped into 5 categories, daily, weekly, monthly, less often and not at all.	9,505
	greensat13 - And how satisfied or dissatisfied would you say you are with the quality of the space?	The random adult is asked to confirm how happy they are with the green spaces available in their local neighbourhood.	Responses are measured on a Likert scale with 6 categories ranging from very satisfied – very dissatisfied. For the analysis in this presentation responses of "don't know" have been excluded and the categories grouped into three categories: Very / fairly satisfied, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied and Fairly / very dissatisfied.	8,979

3. Neighbourhood Rating

Neighbourhood rating – Scottish population



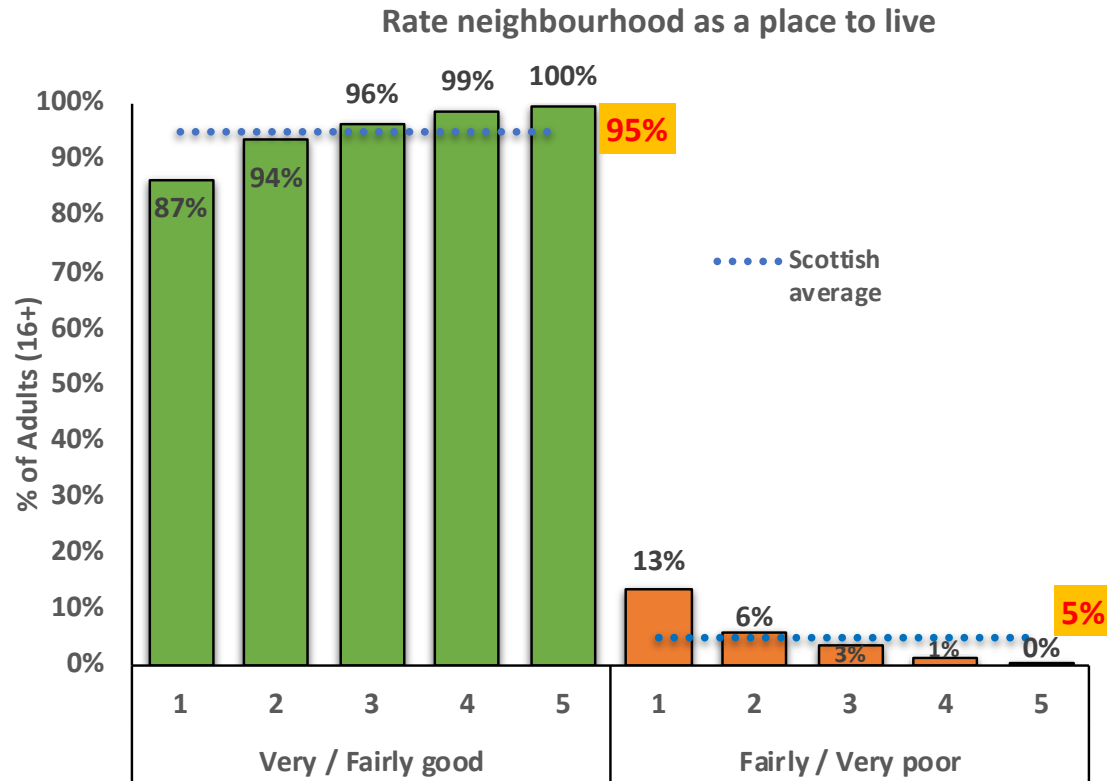
95% of adults have a positive perception of their neighbourhood as a place to live.



Participation rates are:

- 1% higher than the Scottish average for adults with a positive perception of their neighbourhood as a place to live.
- 8% lower than the Scottish average for adults with a negative perception of their neighbourhood as a place to live.

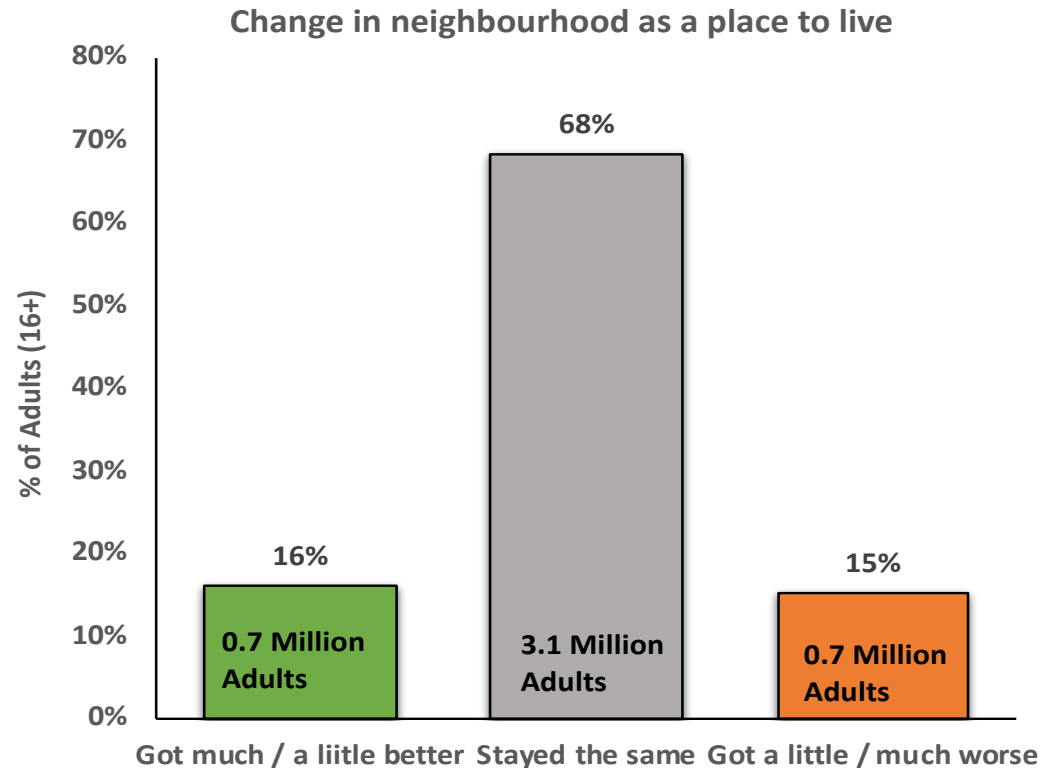
Neighbourhood rating – SIMD Q



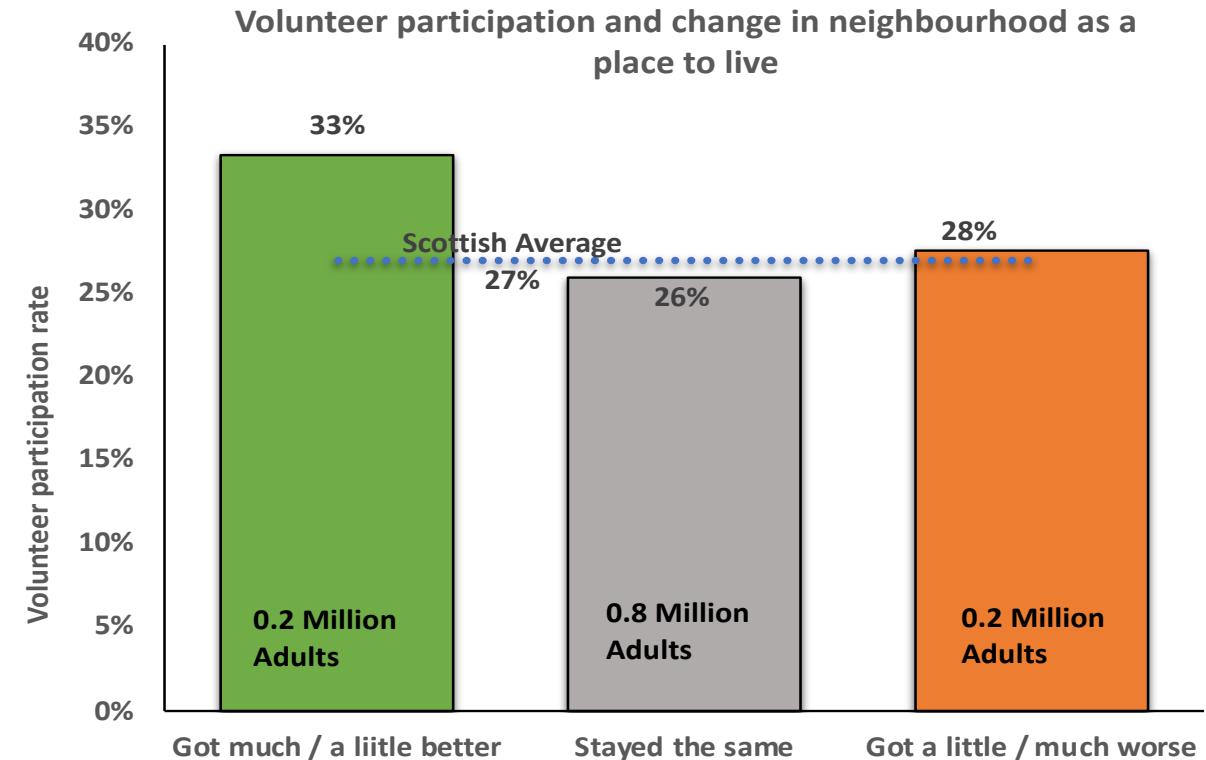
The relationship between 'rate the neighbourhood as a place to live' and volunteer participation is not statistically significant for any SIMD Q.

A higher percentage of adults in SIMD Q1 and Q2 have a negative perception of their local neighbourhood as a place to live than the Scottish average. SIMD Q1 has 8% more adults who rate their neighbourhood poorly than the Scottish average.

Neighbourhood rating – Scottish population



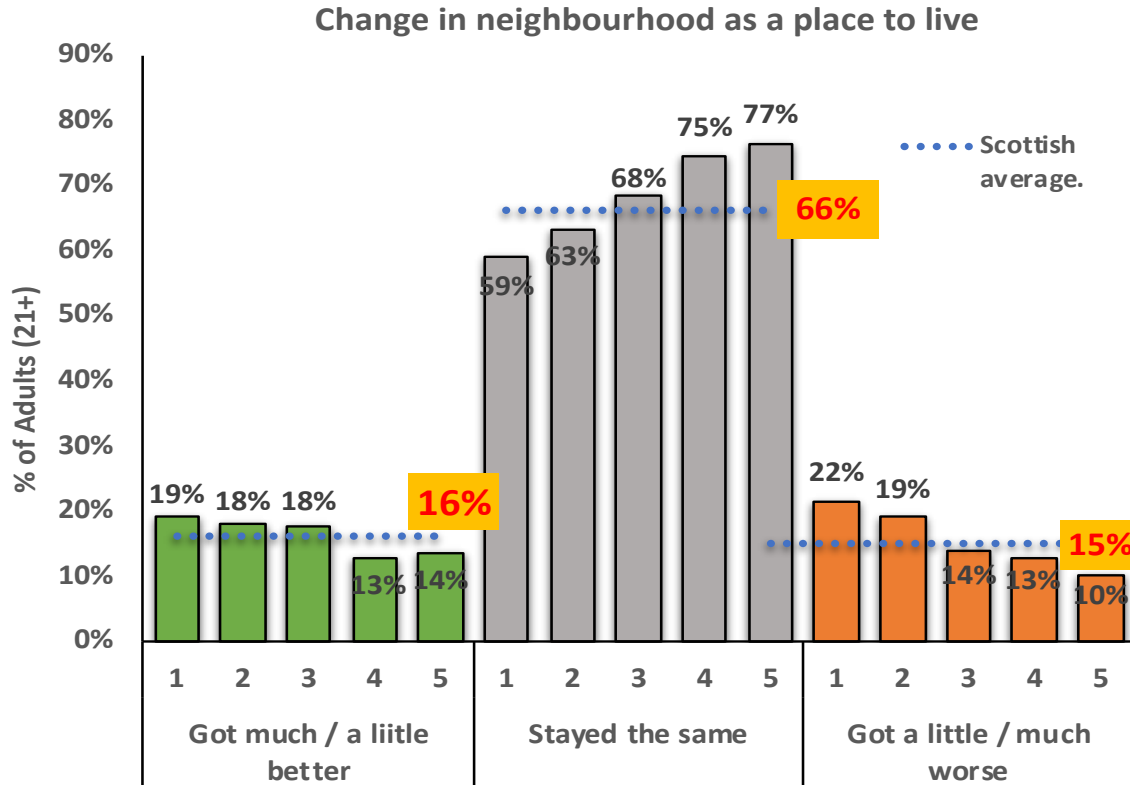
15% of adults feel that the neighbourhood they live in has gotten worse as a place to live.



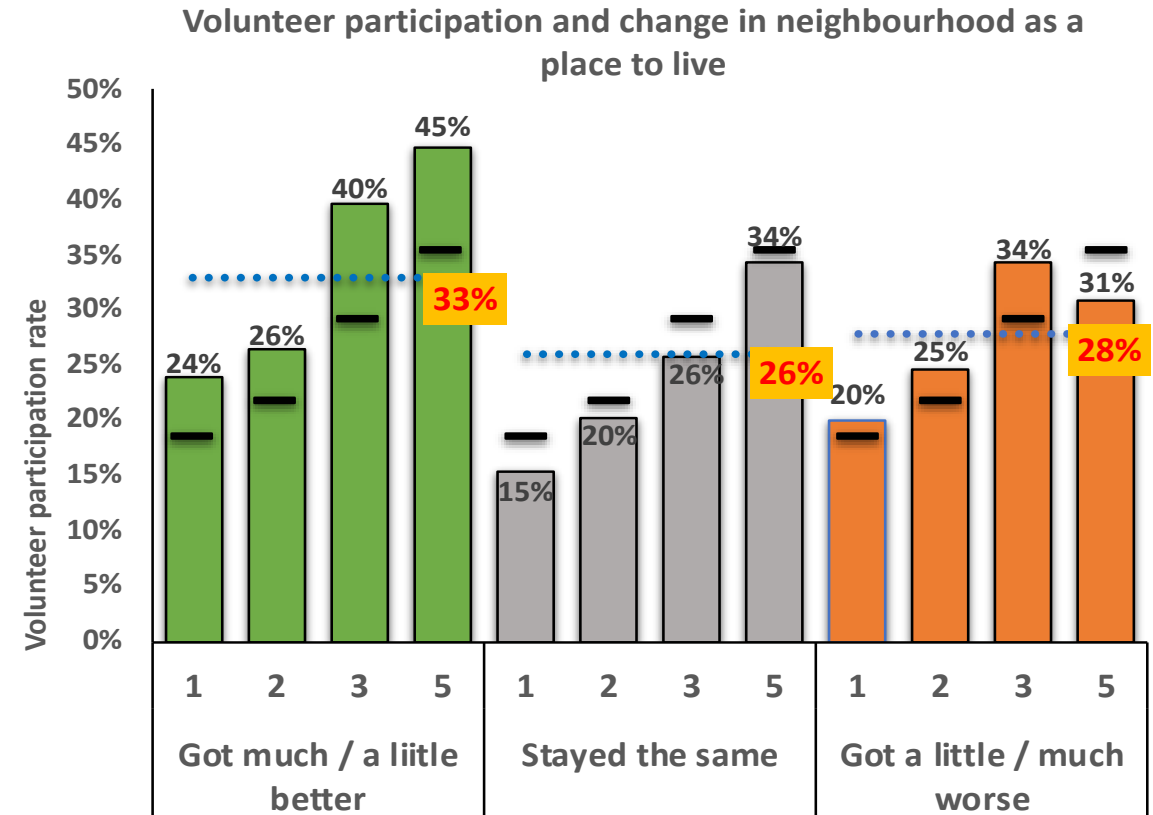
Participation rates are:

- 6% higher than the Scottish average for adults who have seen a positive change in their neighbourhood as a place to live.
- 2% lower than the Scottish average for adults who have not seen a change in their neighbourhood.
- 1% higher than the Scottish average for adults who have seen a negative change in their neighbourhood as a place to live.

Neighbourhood rating – SIMD Q



A higher percentage of adults in SIMD Q1 and Q2 have a negative perception of how their local neighbourhood has changed as a place to live than the Scottish average.

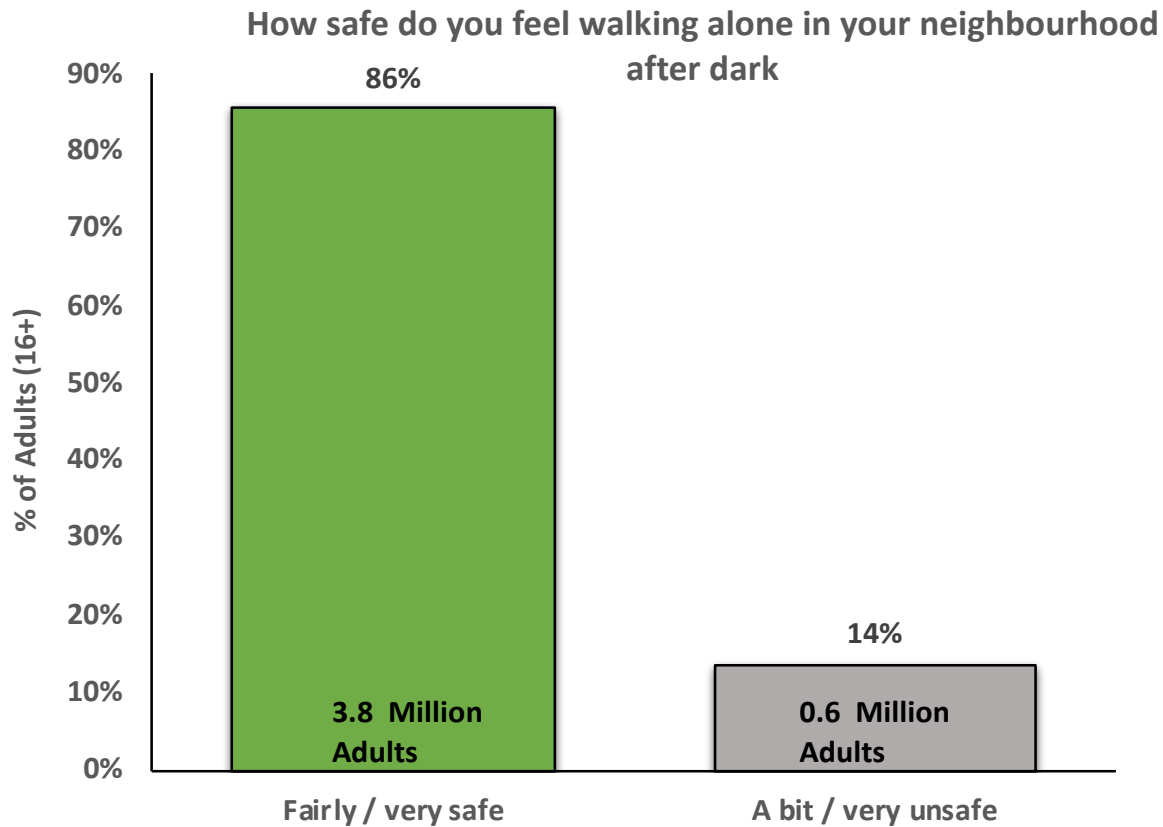


The participation rates for SIMD Q1 and Q2 are below the average Scottish participation rates for adults who feel their neighbourhood has got better as a place to live and got a little / much worse. However, the participation rates in quintiles Q1 and Q2 are higher than the overall Scottish quintile average (18% and 22%).

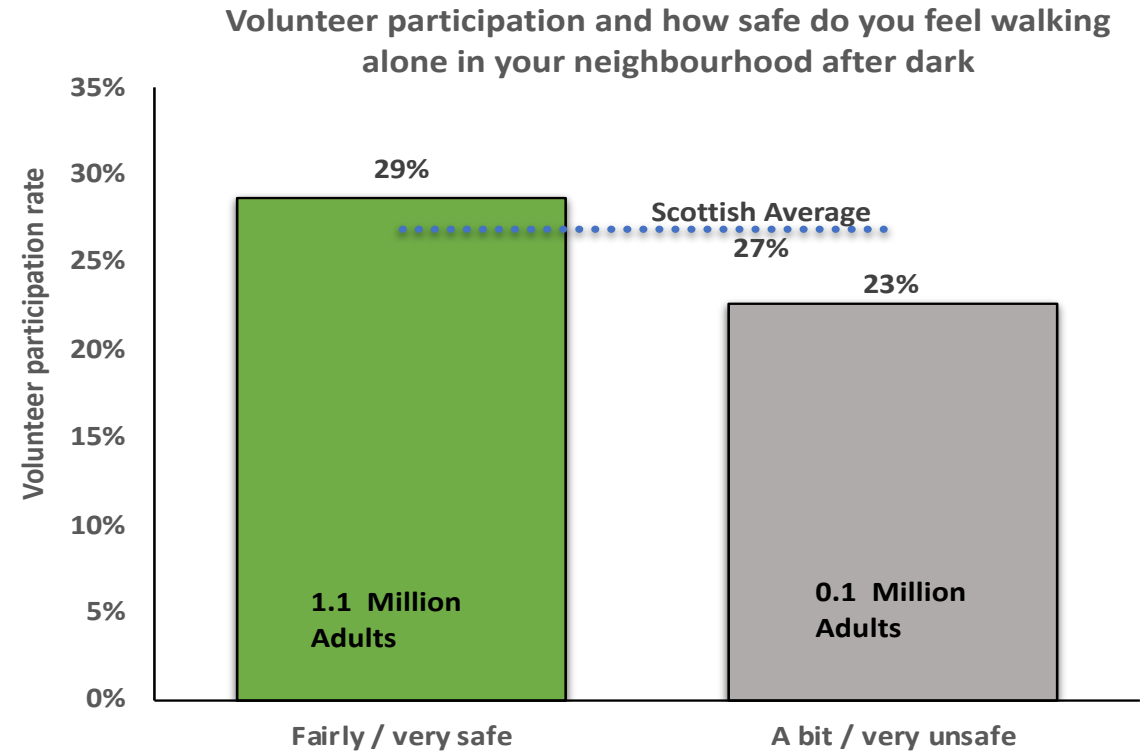
The relationship is not statistically significant for SIMD Q4.

4. Neighbourhood Safety and Crime

Neighbourhood safety and crime – Scottish Population



3.8 million adults (86%) feel safe walking in their local neighbourhood after dark.

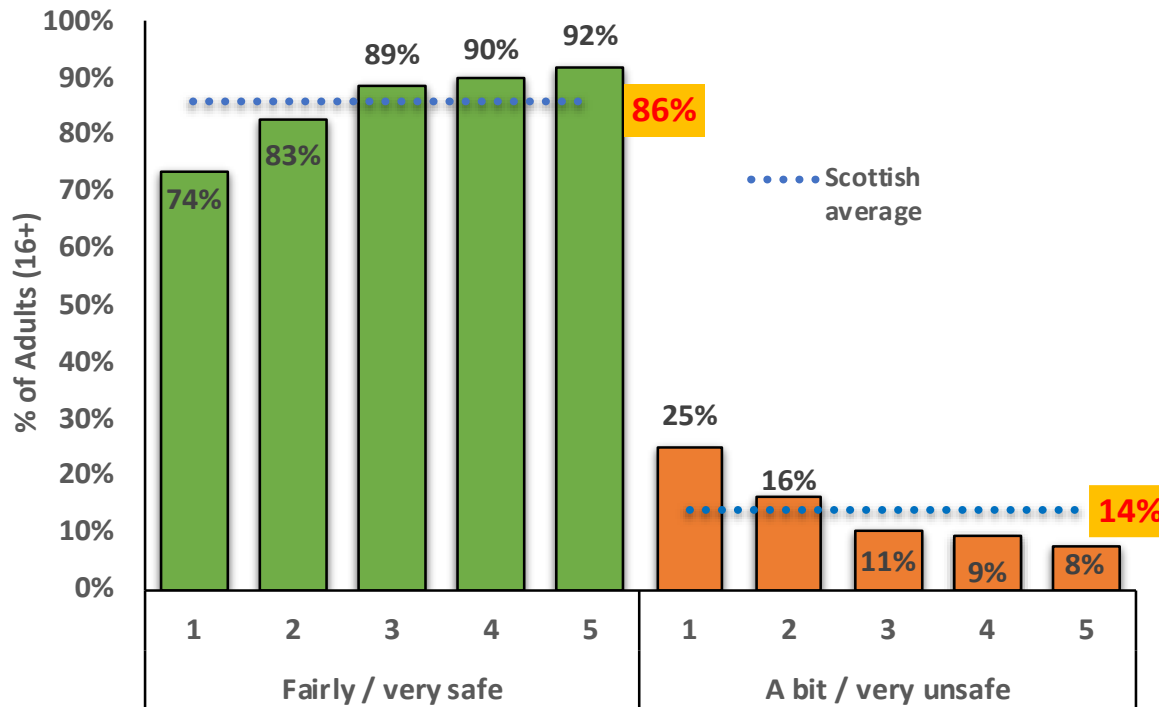


Participation rates are:

- 2% higher than the Scottish average for adults who feel safe walking in their local neighbourhood after dark.
- 4% lower than the Scottish average for adults who feel unsafe walking in their local neighbourhood after dark.

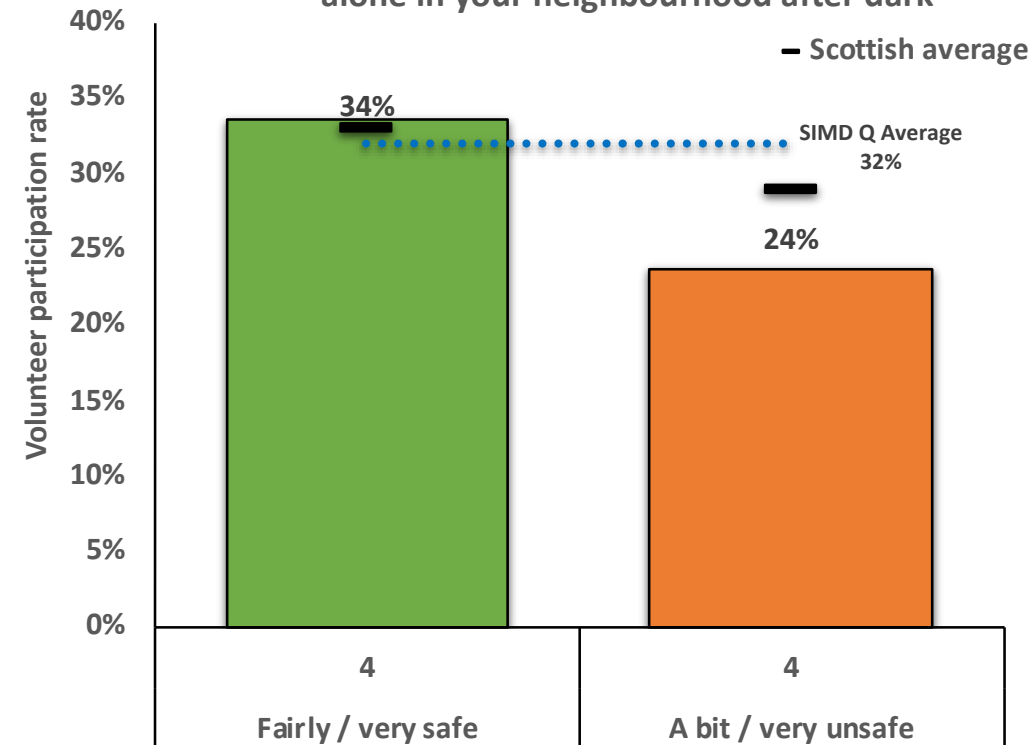
Neighbourhood safety and crime – SIMD Q

How safe do you feel walking alone in your neighbourhood after dark



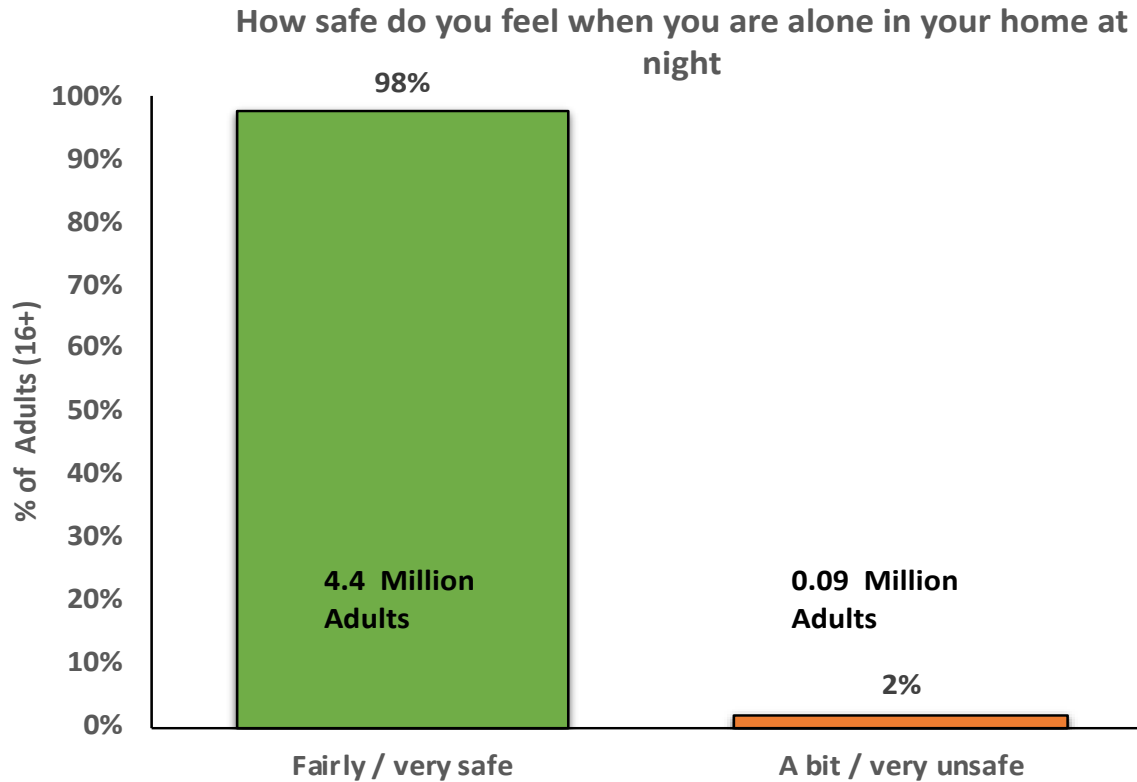
Adults in SIMD Q1 and SIMD Q2 have a higher percentage of adults who feel unsafe walking alone in their their local neighbourhood after dark than the Scottish average – 11% higher for Q1 and 2% higher for Q2.

Volunteer participation and How safe do you feel walking alone in your neighbourhood after dark



The relationship between 'how safe do you feel walking alone in your neighbourhood after dark' and volunteer participation is only statistically significant for SIMD Q4, where participation rates are above average where adults feel fairly / very safe walking alone after dark and below average for adults who feel a bit / very unsafe.

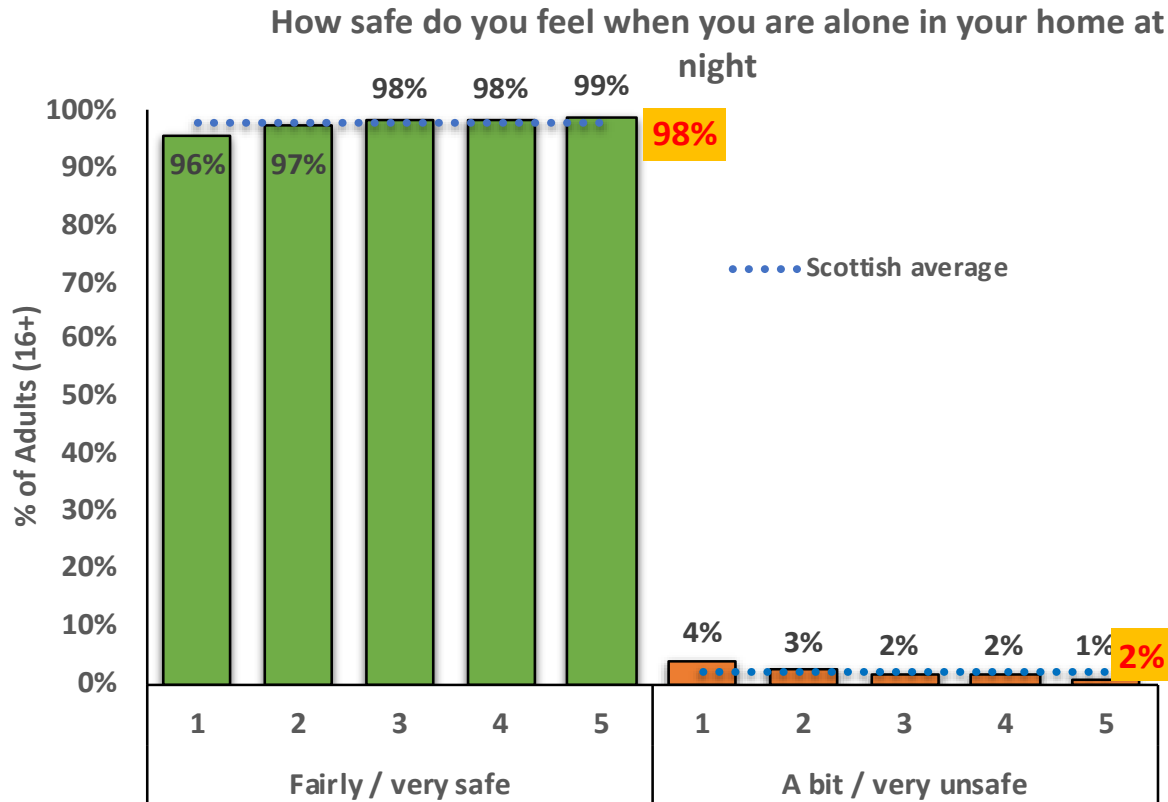
Neighbourhood safety and crime – Scottish Population



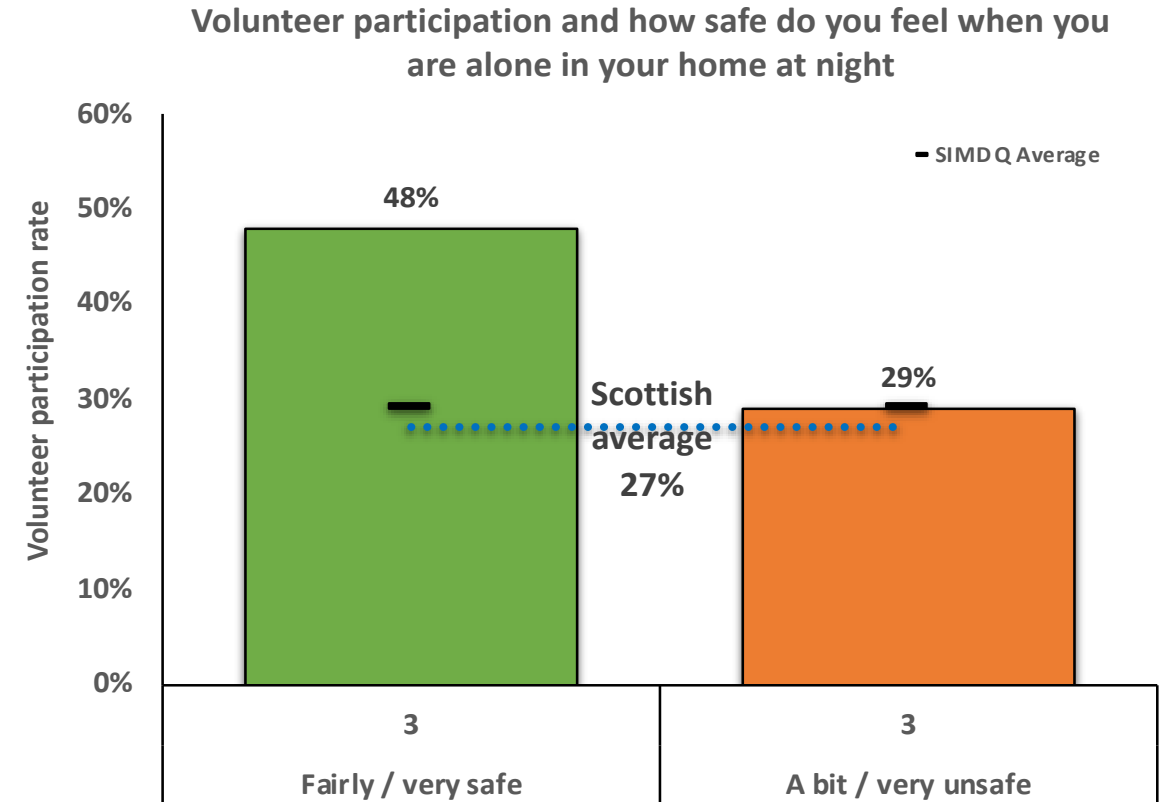
The relationship between 'how safe do you feel when you are alone in your home at night' and volunteer participation is not statistically significant. Participation rates are equal to the Scottish average irrespective of how safe adults feel when they are alone in their home at night.

Only 2% of adults feel unsafe in their home when they are alone at night.

Neighbourhood safety and crime – SIMD Q



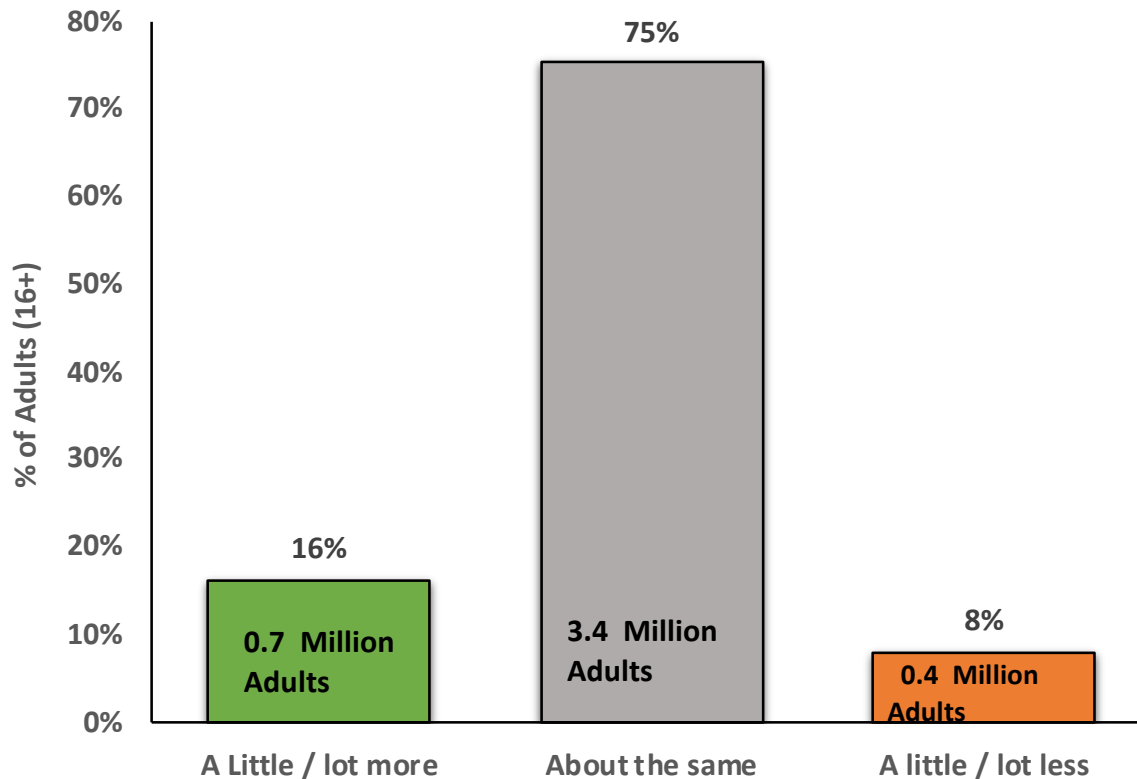
SIMD Q1 and SIM Q2 have a higher percentage of adults that feel unsafe when they are alone in their home at night than the Scottish average,



The relationship between ‘how safe do you feel when you are alone in your home at night’ and volunteer participation is only statistically significant for SIMD Q3, where participation rates are equal to the SIMD Q3 average for adults who feel a bit / very unsafe and above the quintile average for adults who feel fairly / very safe.

Neighbourhood safety and crime – Scottish Population

Change in local crime rate over past 2 years

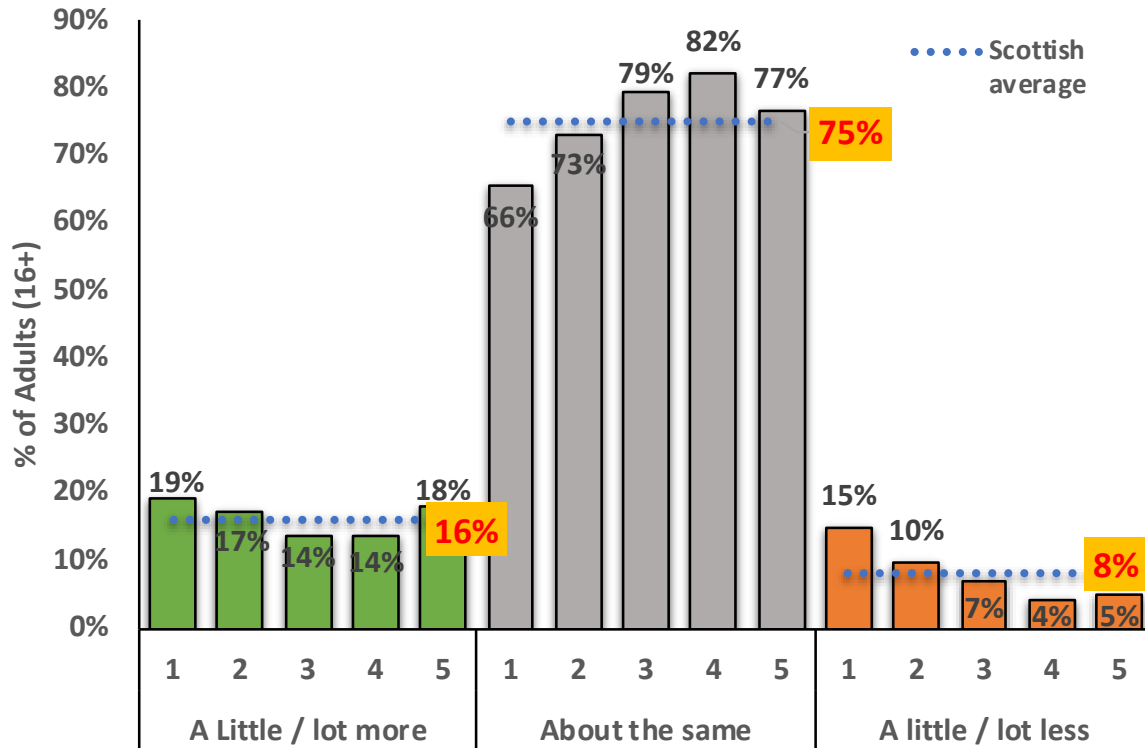


The relationship between 'change in local area crime rate over the past 2 years and volunteer participation is not statistically significant at an overall Scottish level.

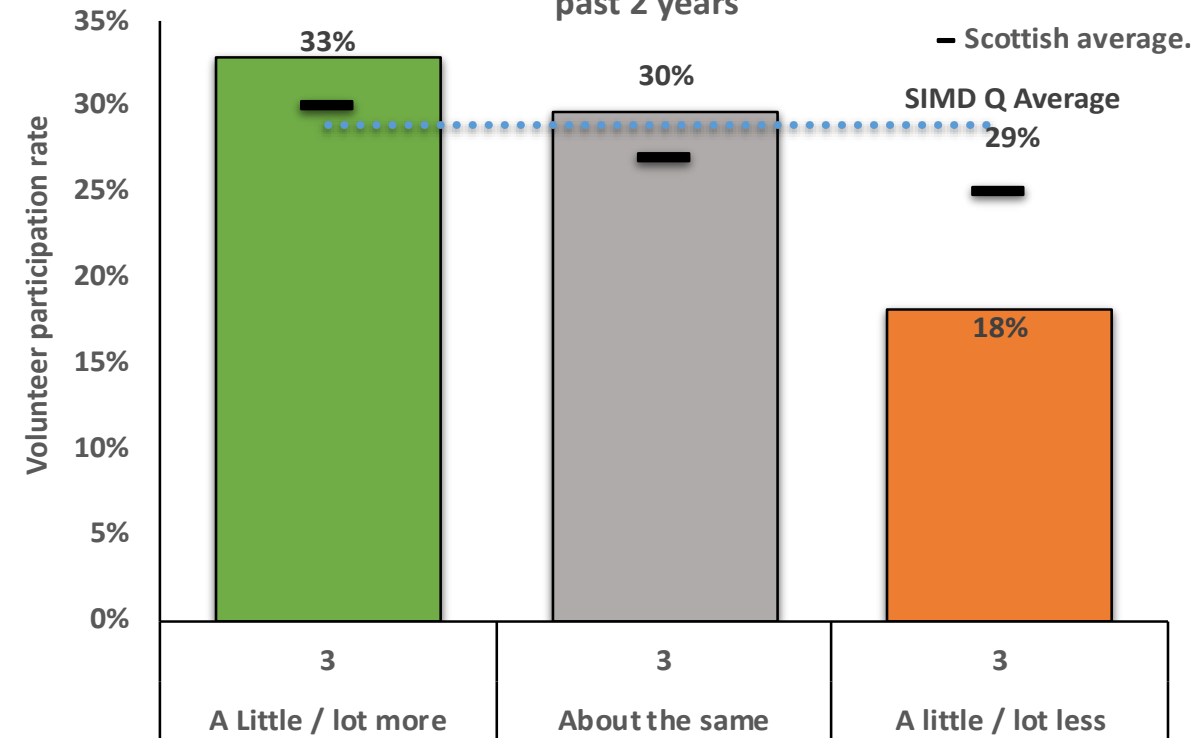
16% of adults feel that there has been an increase in crime rates in their local neighbourhood in the past 2 years.

Neighbourhood safety and crime – SIMD Q

Change in local crime rate over past 2 years



Volunteer participation and change in local crime rate over past 2 years

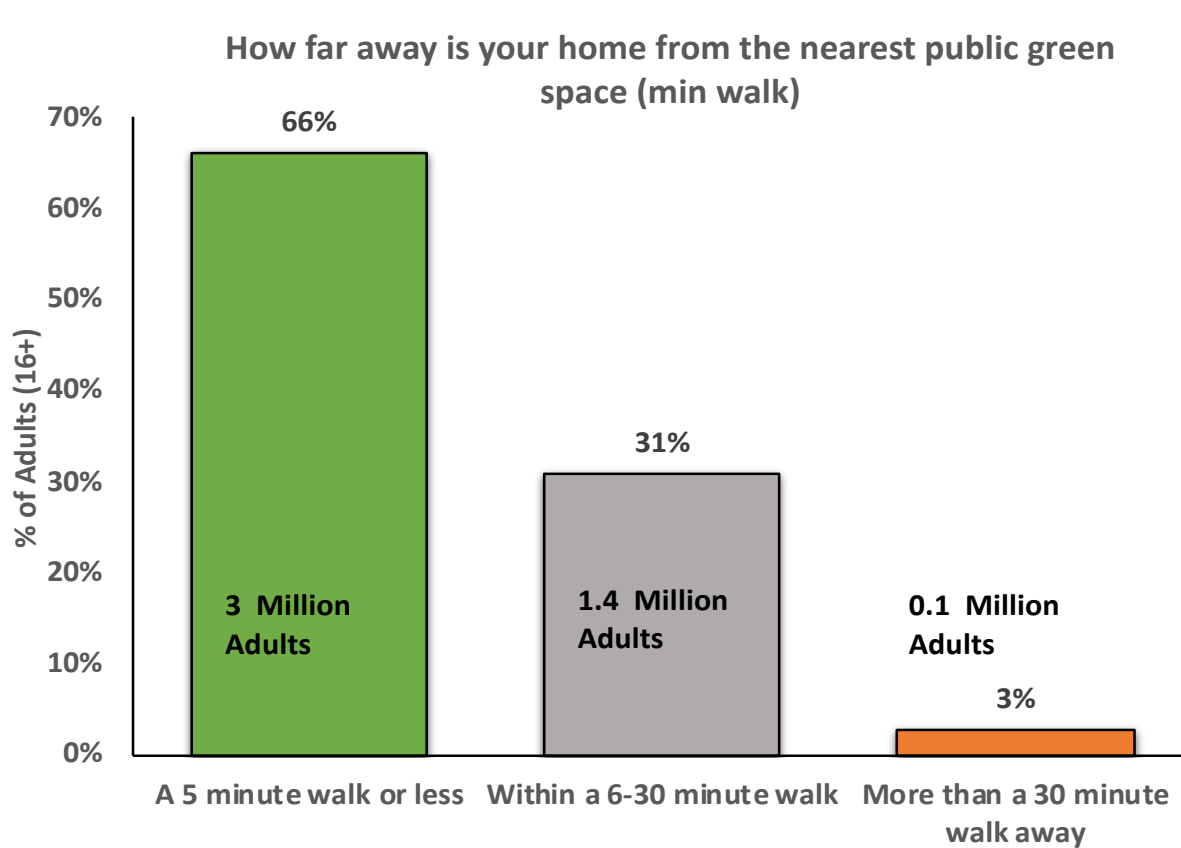


Adults in SIMD Q1 and SIMD Q2 have a higher percentage of adults that feel that crime rates have increased in their local area than the Scottish average.

The relationship between ‘change in crime rate over past 2 years’ and volunteer participation is only statistically significant for SIMD Q3. Participation rates are above both the Scottish and quintile average for adults who feel crime rates have got a little / lot more and about the same, and below the Scottish and quintile average for adults who feel that crime rates have got a little /lot less.

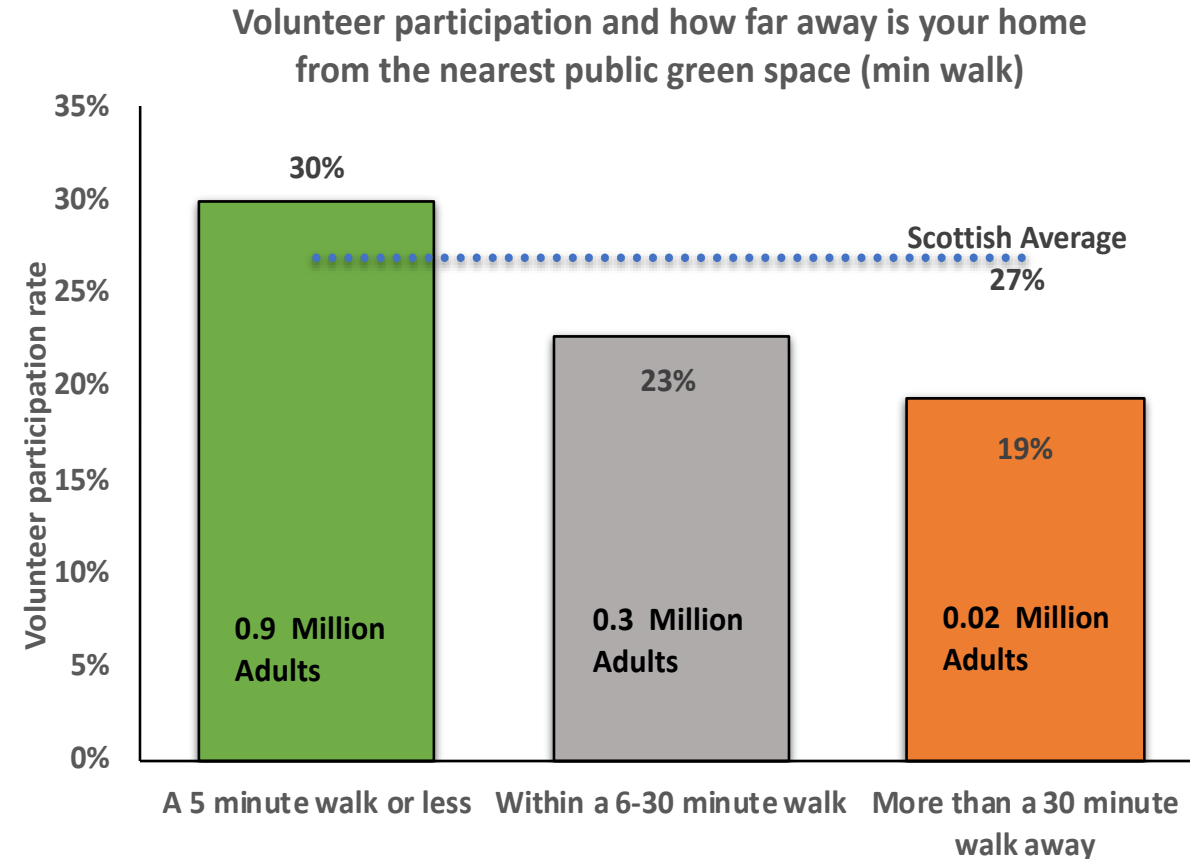
5. Neighbourhood green spaces

Neighbourhood green spaces – Scottish population



Two thirds of Scottish adults have a green space within a 5 minute walk of their home.

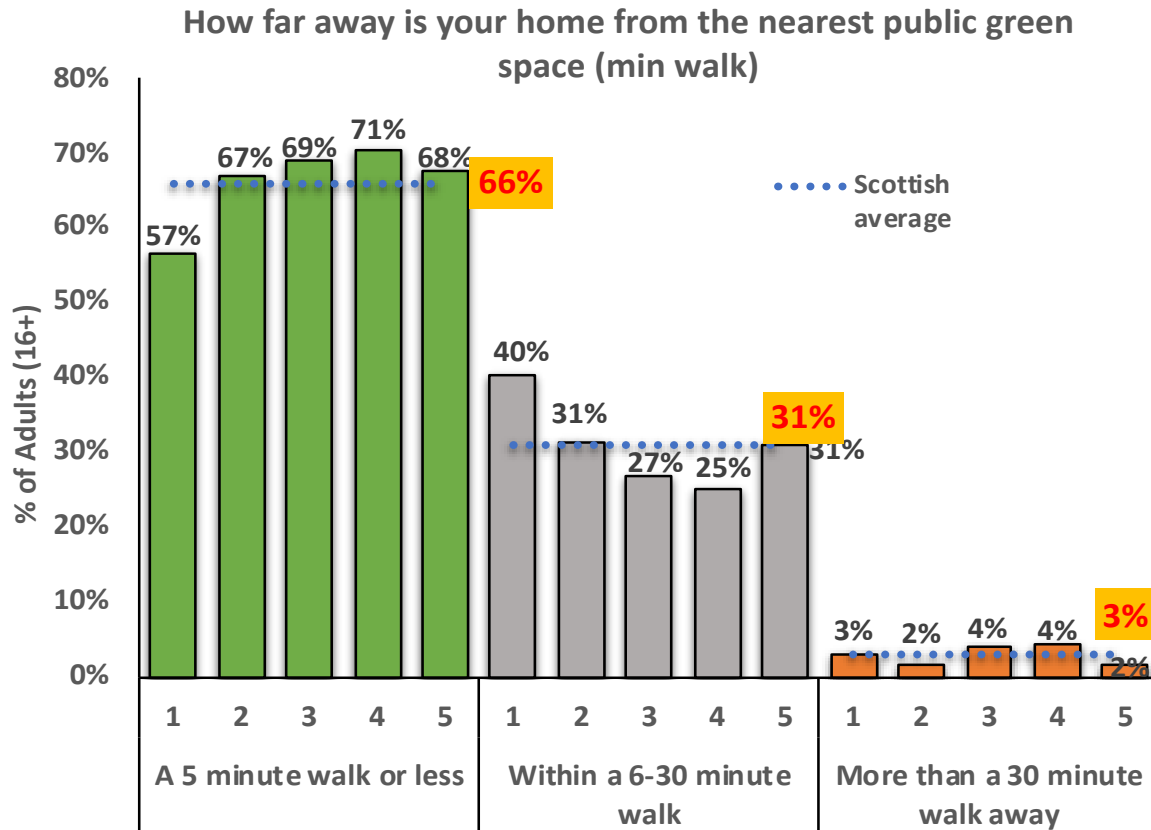
Source: Scottish Household Survey (SHS) 2016



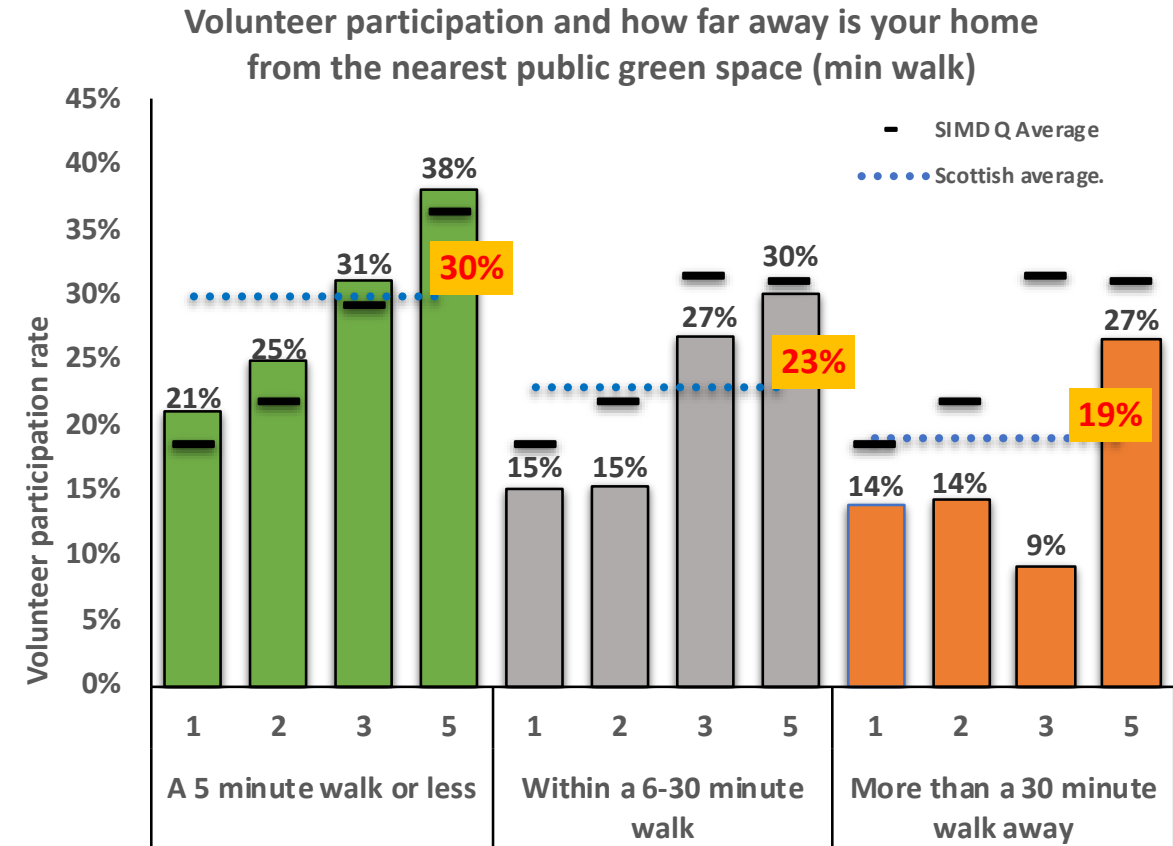
Participation rates are:

- 3% higher where a green space is within a 5 minute walk.
- 4% lower when a green space is within a 6-30 minute walk.
- 8% lower when a green space is more than a 30 minute walk away.

Neighbourhood green spaces – SIMD Q



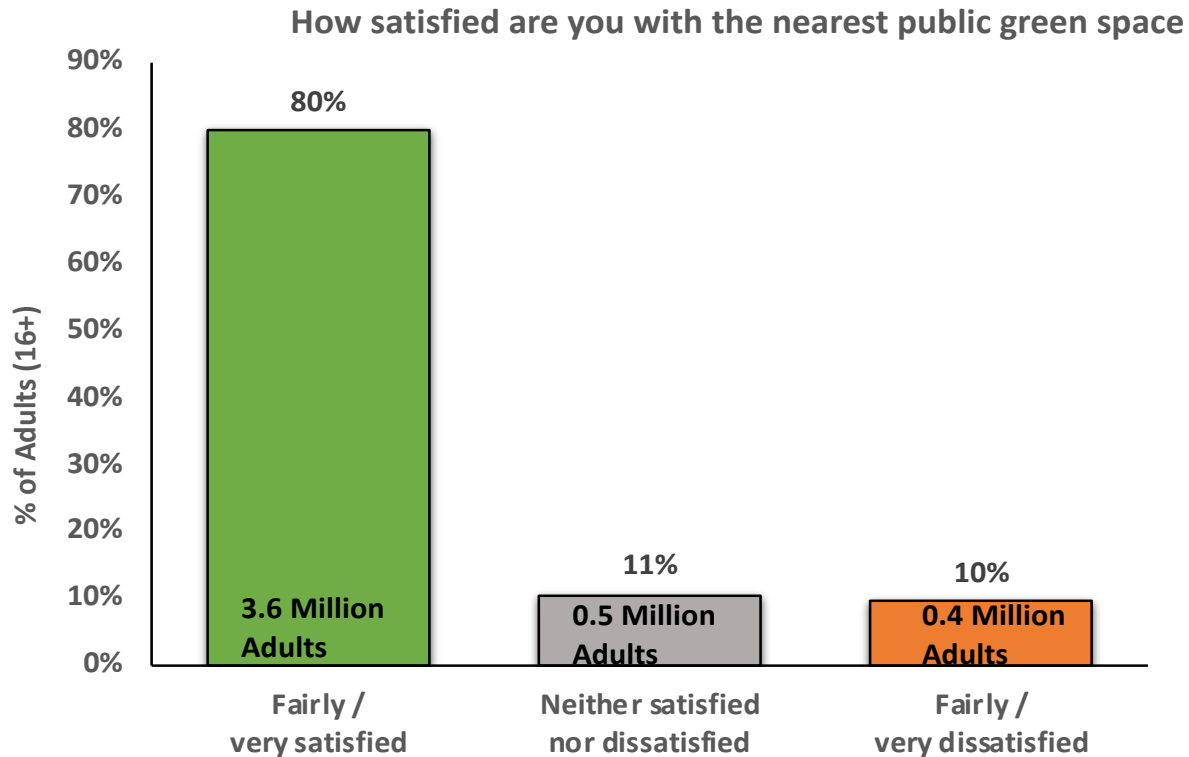
A lower percentage of adults in SIMD Q1 have a green space within a five minute walk than the national average.



The participation rates for SIMD Q1 and Q2 are below the average Scottish participation rates for adults with a green space within a 5 minute walk. However the participation rates in these quintiles is higher than the overall Scottish quintile average (18% and 22%)

The relationship is not statistically significant for SIMD Q4..

Neighbourhood green spaces – Scottish population

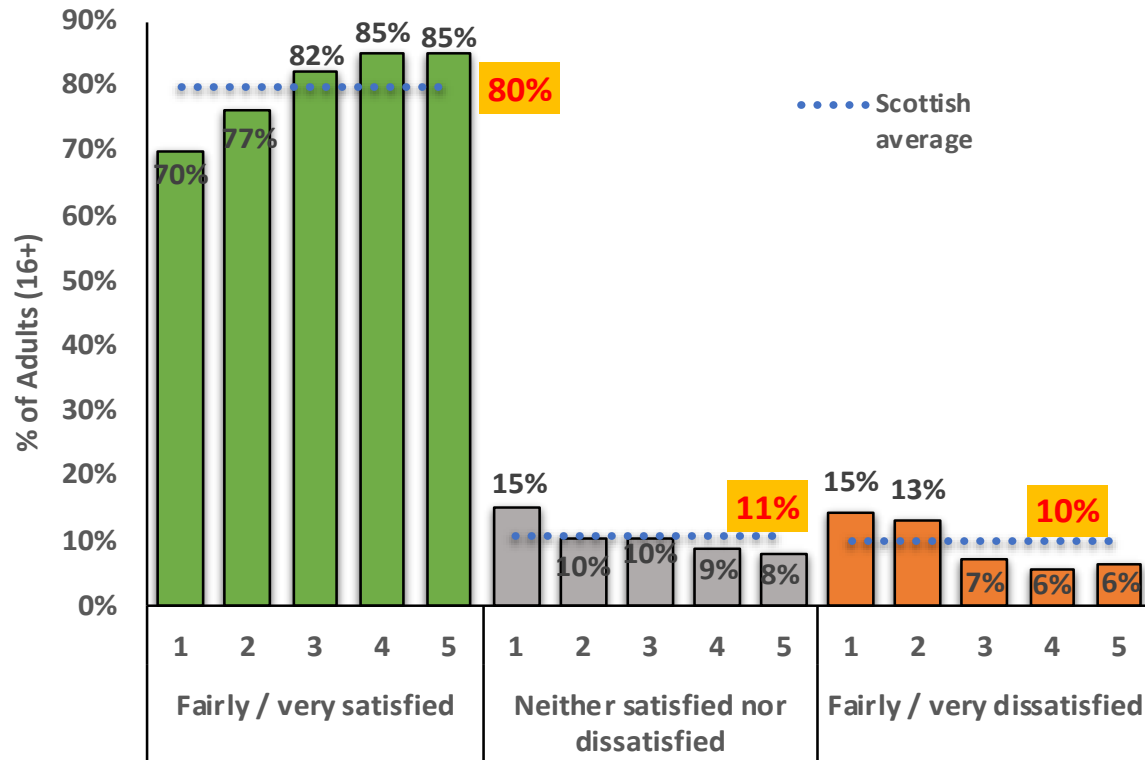


The relationship between 'how satisfied are you with the nearest public green space' and volunteer participation is not statistically significant at an overall Scottish level.

80% of adults are satisfied with the quality of the green spaces available within their local neighbourhood.

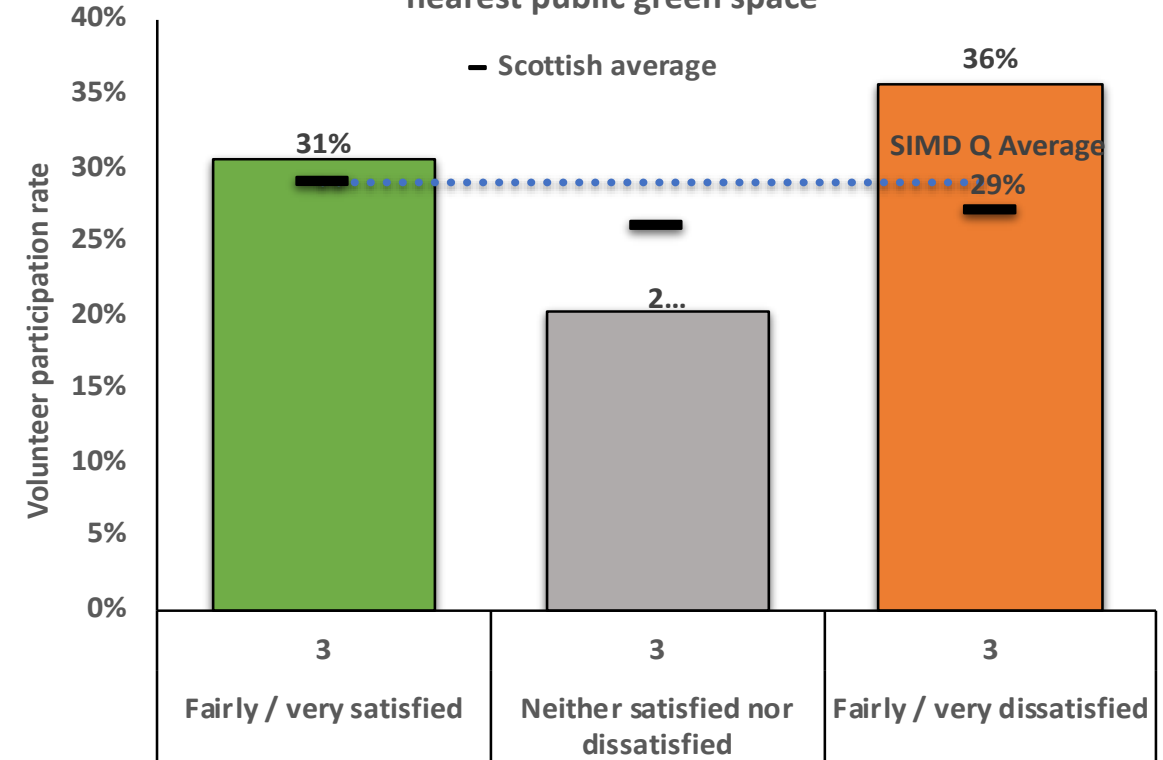
Neighbourhood green spaces – SIMD Q

How satisfied are you with the nearest public green space



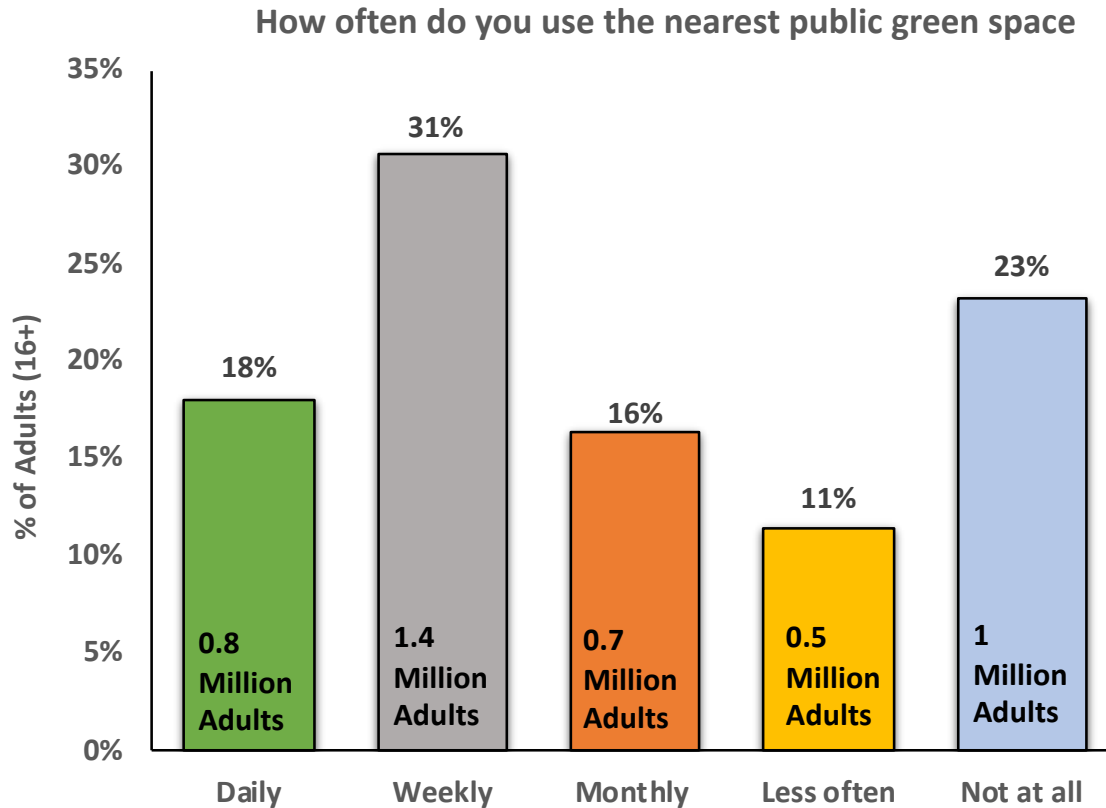
A higher percentage of adults in SIMD Q1 and Q2 are dissatisfied with the green spaces available in their local neighbourhood than the Scottish average.

Volunteer participation and how satisfied are you with the nearest public green space

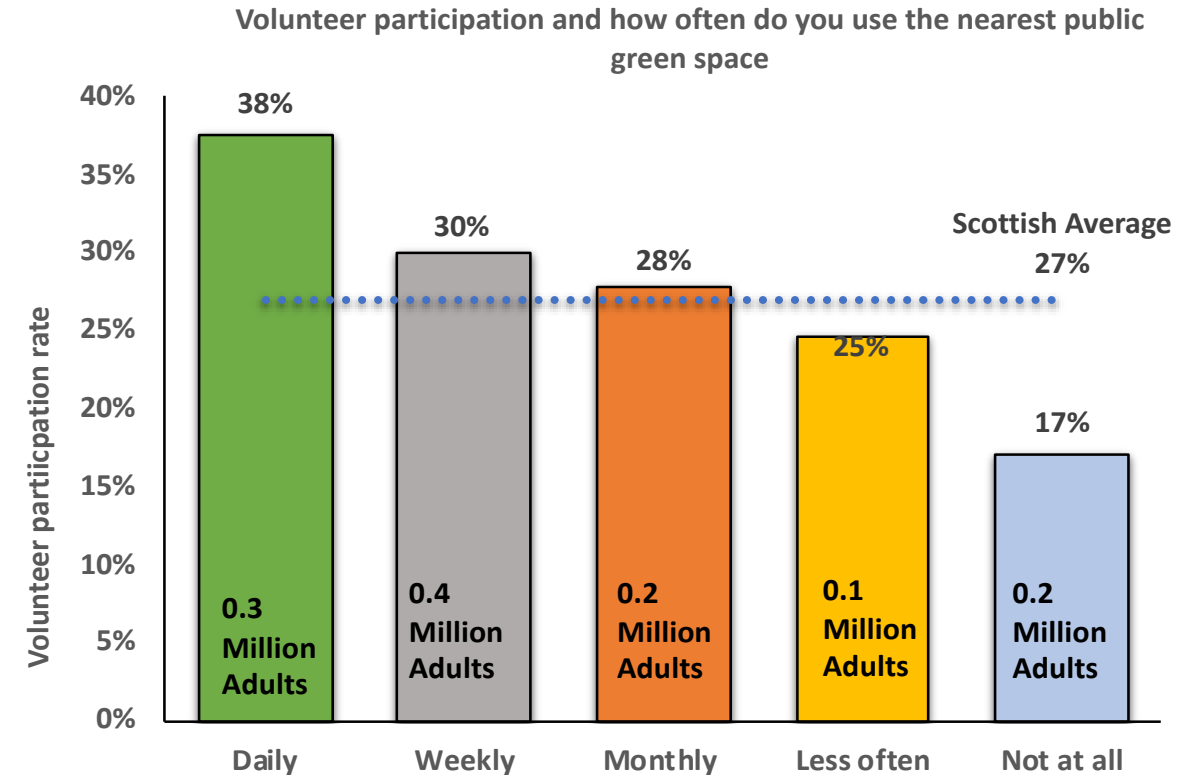


The relationship between 'how satisfied are you with the nearest public green space' and volunteer participation is only statistically significant for SIMD Q3. Participation rates are above average for adults who are fairly / very satisfied and fairly /very dissatisfied and below average for adults who are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.

Neighbourhood green spaces – Scottish population



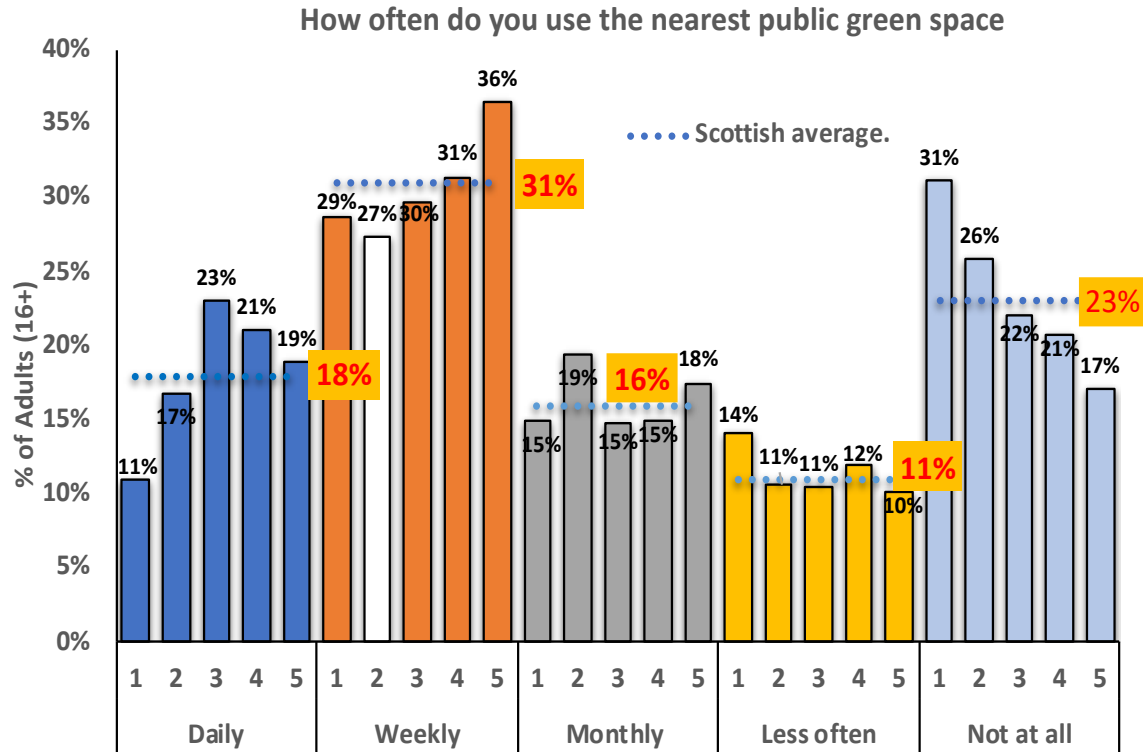
Almost half of Scottish adults (49%) visit their neighbourhood green spaces on at least a weekly basis.



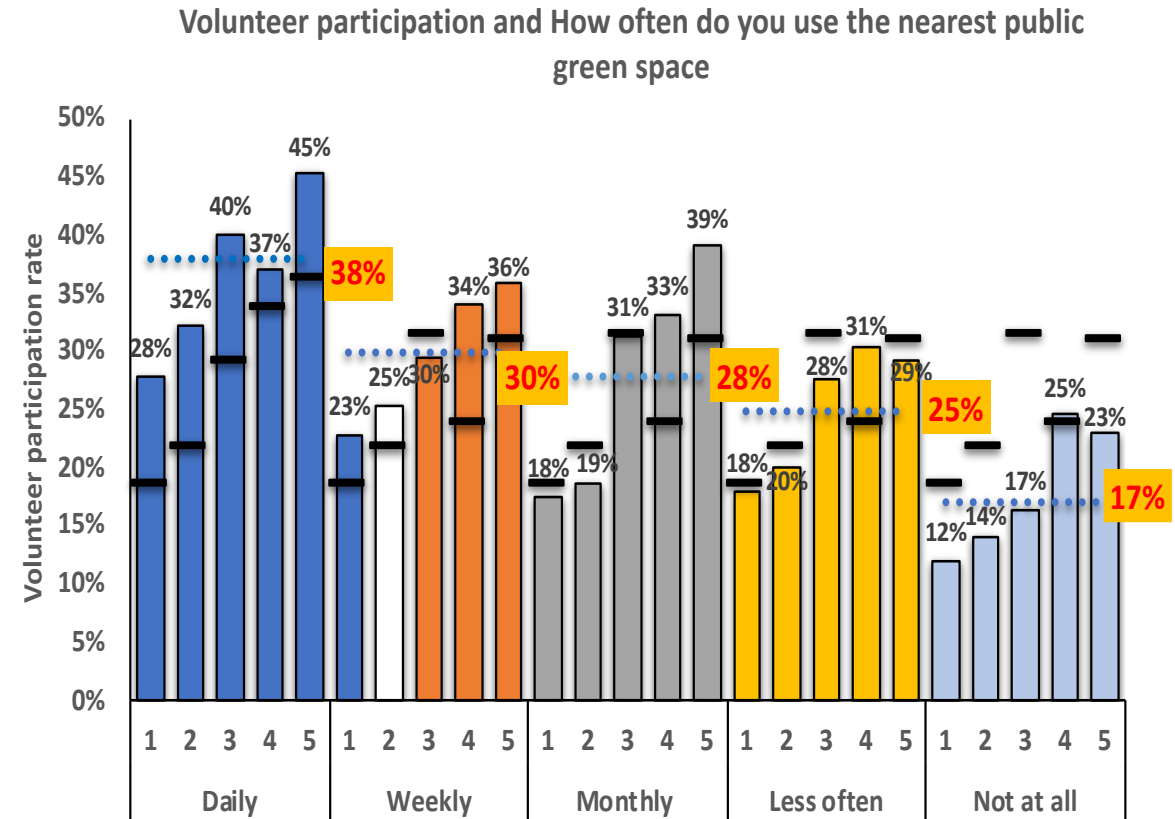
Participation rates are:

- 11% higher where adults visit local green spaces daily.
- 1% higher where adults visit local green spaces monthly.
- 10% lower where adults do not visit local green spaces.

Neighbourhood green spaces – SIMD Q



A lower percentage of adults in SIMD Q1 and Q2 use local green spaces on a daily and weekly basis than the national average.



The participation rates for SIMD Q1 and Q2 are below the average Scottish participation rates for adults who visit green spaces on a daily and weekly basis. However the participation rates in these quintiles is higher than the overall Scottish quintile average (18% and 22%)

6. Summary Highlights

Summary highlights – Scottish Level

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

- Have a positive perception of their local neighbourhood (1% higher).
- Have seen positive changes in their local neighbourhood (6% higher).
- Feel safe walking alone after dark in their local neighbourhood (2% higher).
- Have greenspaces within a 5 minute walk of their home (3% higher).
- Visit local green spaces on a daily basis (11%) higher.

Overall this tells us that more Scottish adults volunteer when they have a positive view of their local area, feel safe in their local area when alone at night and utilise local green spaces frequently. From this data we cannot confirm if volunteering causes positive views of local neighbourhood characteristics in volunteers, but we do see a relationship between neighbourhood characteristics and volunteering.

Summary highlights – SIMDQ Level

When considering SIMD Q1 (the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland), these quintiles have:

- A higher percentage of adults with a negative perception of their local neighbourhood.
- A higher percentage of adults with a negative perception of changes in their local neighbourhood.
- A higher percentage of adults who feel unsafe walking alone after dark in their local neighbourhood.
- A higher percentage of adults who feel unsafe alone in their home at night.
- A higher percentage of adults who feel crime rates have crime rates have got lot a little / lot worse.
- A lower percentage of adults with greenspaces within a 5 minute walk of their home.
- A higher percentage of adults who are dissatisfied with the green spaces in their local area.
- A higher percentage of adults who never visit local green spaces.

Summary highlights – SIMDQ Level

Volunteer participation rates for SIMD Q1 are higher than the overall quintile average (18%) for adults who:

- Have seen positive changes in their local neighbourhood (6% higher).
- Have greenspaces within a 5 minute walk of their home (3% higher).
- Visit local green spaces on a daily basis (10%) higher.