

Drumgeith Community Campus

Consultation Report



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Community Campus Consultation Report

INTRODUCTION

Dundee City Council is currently building a new Community Campus to serve the East End of the city which will open in August 2025. As part of this project, the Council, in partnership with Leisure and Culture Dundee consulted on the proposed relocation of both Council and Leisure & Culture Dundee run services from the following facilities:

1. The Hub Library & Community Facilities
2. Whitfield Library (The Crescent)
3. Douglas Community Centre & Library
4. Douglas Sports Centre

The consultation was carried out between 4 November to 15 December 2024, the key aim was to identify any impacts the relocation of services from these facilities would have on the local community, consider any measures that could be taken to mitigate or lessen these, and explore the future of the existing community buildings.

Consultees were able to respond to the consultations online via the Council's website. It was important that all users of the facilities and the wider communities had a fair and equal opportunity to take part, so paper copies were made available from libraries and the affected facilities. Fourteen public drop-in sessions were held, six in Douglas Community Centre and Library, four in Douglas Sports Centre, three in the Hub library and one in Whitfield Library.

Regular promotion of the consultation was undertaken during this period to encourage feedback. There was a total of 1334 responses to the questionnaire 641 online and 693 paper versions, a further 7 written submissions were received directly. Questions were optional therefore the base number of responses for each question below will differ, results are provided as a proportion of those who answered each question.

Demographic summary of respondents

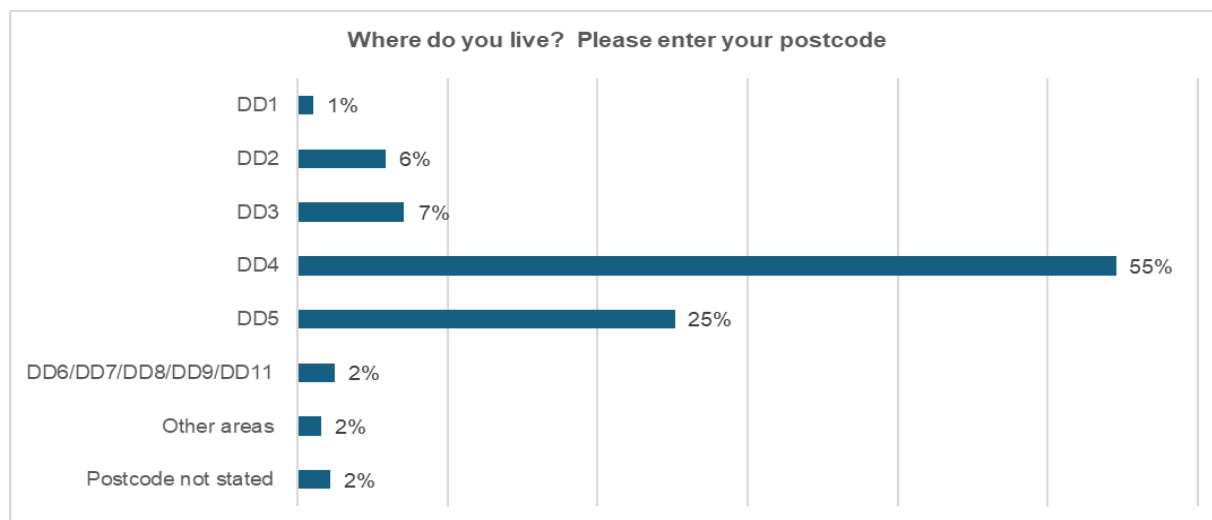
- 60% were female
- 6% under the age of 16
- 30% aged 45 to 64
- 24% aged 65 and over
- 27% had a disability
- 31% stated that their day-to-day activities were limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted or is expected to last, at least 12 months
- 23% had a long-term illness or health condition
- 22% had a mental health condition
- 30% were working full time, 13% part time
- 29% were retired
- 6% were unemployed
- 34% stated that they looked after or gave help/support to family members, friends, neighbours because of either long-term physical/mental ill-health/disability or problems related to old age

ANALYSIS OF RESPONSES

1. Where are you from?

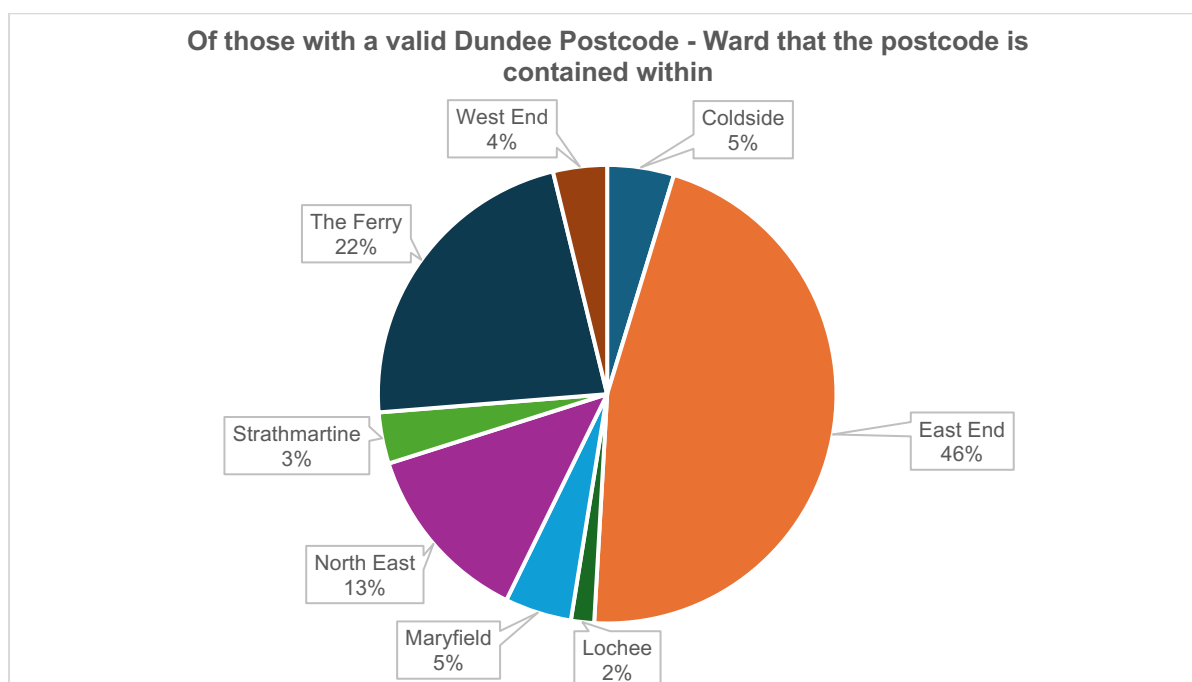
The following chart shows that the greatest proportion of postcodes provided were from the DD4 area with around 55% of responses coming from this area, this was followed by the DD5 area with 25%. In

contrast 1% of responses were from the DD1 area, 6% were from the DD2 area and 7% were from the DD3 area. Along with responses from the Dundee City area, responses were received from individuals living in Angus, Fife, Perth and Kinross, Aberdeenshire and City of Edinburgh.



Base: 1332

When looking at the valid Dundee City postcodes by ward, the largest majority of respondents who provided a postcode were from the East End 46%, followed by The Ferry 22% and North East 13%. The ward breakdown is shown in the chart below:

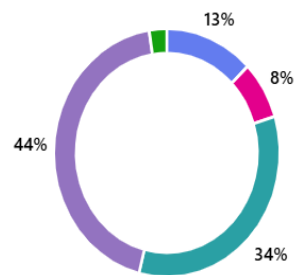


Base: 1104

2. Do you currently use any of the following facilities?

44% of respondents used Douglas Sports Centre, 34% Douglas Community Centre and Library, 13% The Hub Library and Community facilities and 8% Whitfield Library, 1% of respondents stated that they didn't use any facility. Note that respondents could choose more than one facility.

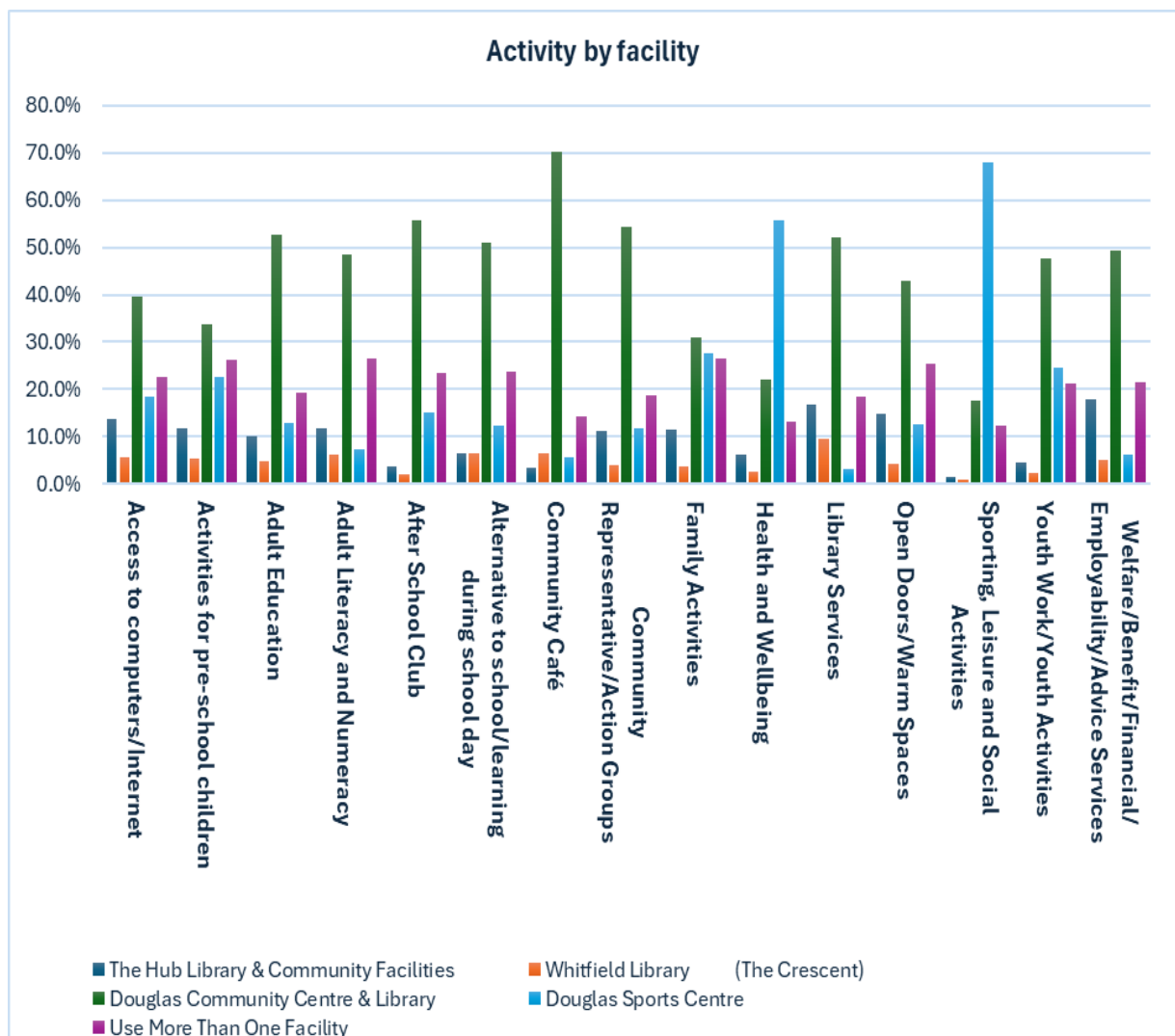
The Hub Library & Community Facilities	238
Whitfield Library (The Crescent)	142
Douglas Community Centre & Library	632
Douglas Sports Centre	816
No - please move directly to Q7	47



Base:1334

3. What do you currently use these facilities for? Tick any that apply. If you use more than one of the facilities listed for any of these activities, pick the final choice of "use more than one facility"

Percentage is based on total users of that activity, e.g. 70.3% of those who used a community café did so at Douglas Community Centre and Library



Base: 907

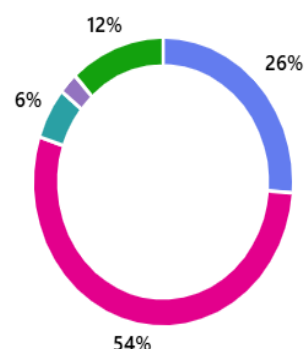
Highlighted in bold in the table below are the 3 most common activities that respondents stated they used within that facility including where they used more than one.

Activity	The Hub Library & Community Facilities	Whitfield Library (The Crescent)	Douglas Community Centre & Library	Douglas Sports Centre	Use More Than One Facility
Access to computers/Internet	13.6%	5.6%	39.6%	18.5%	22.7%
Activities for pre-school children	11.8%	5.4%	33.9%	22.7%	26.2%
Adult Education	10.2%	4.9%	52.6%	13.0%	19.3%
Adult Literacy and Numeracy	11.7%	6.1%	48.5%	7.4%	26.4%
After School Club	3.8%	2.1%	55.8%	15.0%	23.3%
Alternative to school/learning during school day	6.5%	6.5%	51.1%	12.4%	23.7%
Community Café	3.4%	6.5%	70.3%	5.6%	14.2%
Community Representative/Action Groups	11.1%	4.1%	54.2%	11.8%	18.8%
Family Activities	11.5%	3.7%	31.0%	27.5%	26.4%
Health and Wellbeing	6.3%	2.5%	22.1%	55.8%	13.3%
Library Services	16.6%	9.5%	52.1%	3.2%	18.5%
Open Doors/Warm Spaces	14.9%	4.3%	42.9%	12.5%	25.3%
Sporting, Leisure and Social Activities	1.4%	0.9%	17.5%	67.9%	12.3%
Youth Work/Youth Activities	4.4%	2.4%	47.6%	24.5%	21.1%
Welfare/Benefit/Financial/Employability/Advice Services	18.0%	5.0%	49.3%	6.1%	21.6%

4. How often do you currently use these facilities?

54% of respondents stated that they use facilities weekly, 26% stated daily with others less often, note that many respondents left “other” comment outlining differing times of use such as twice weekly etc.

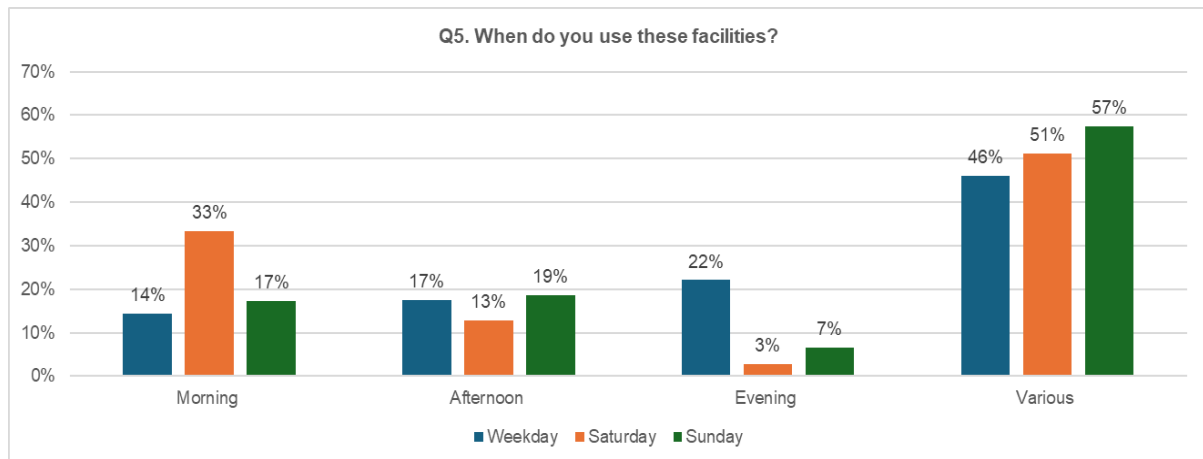
● Daily	334
● Weekly	686
● Monthly	73
● Less often	30
● Other	151



Base:1274

5. When do you use these facilities?

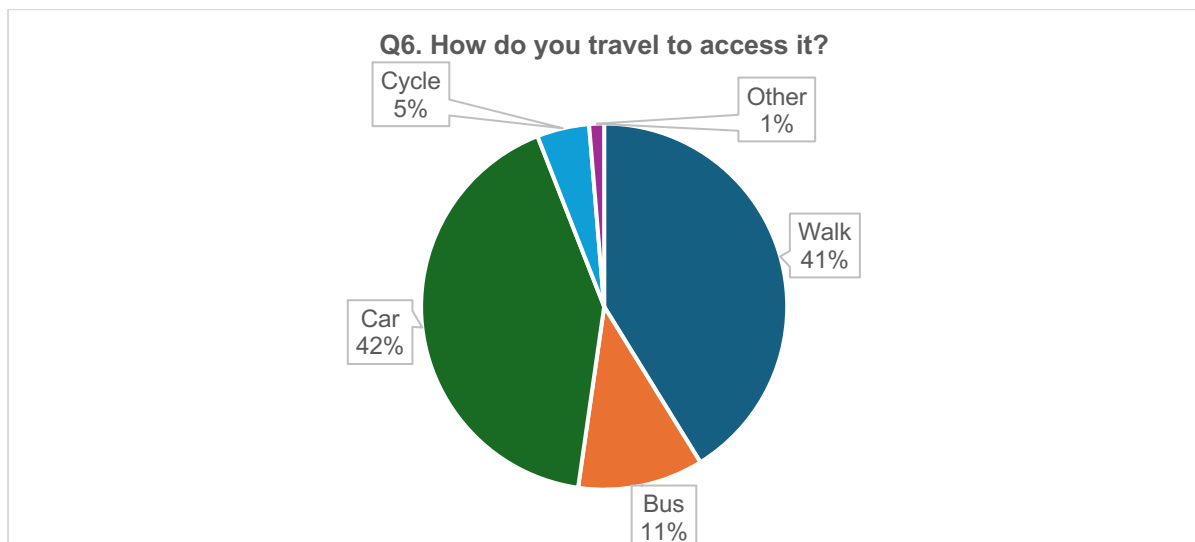
Most respondents used facilities at various times of the day/week depending on the activity they were doing. Of those who specified a particular time, evenings and afternoon during the week were most common, Saturday in the morning and Sunday morning and afternoon.



Base: 1248

6. How do you travel to access it?

The most common methods of travel were by car 42% but walking was very similar at 41% each followed by bus 11%, cycle 5% and other 1%.



Base:1334

7. What impact would the relocation of services to the East End Community Campus have on you?

88% of respondents stated that relocation of services to the East End Community Campus would have a negative impact, 6% stated it would be a positive impact and 6% said no impact.



Base:1306

Users of each facility who stated that moving activities to the Campus would have a negative impact on them was as follows; Douglas Community Centre and Library 88.4%. Douglas Sports Centre 89.8%, The Hub Community Centre and Library 91.5%, Whitfield Library 85.7%.

Note that as users could choose to use more than one facility the percentage is based on those who indicated a negative impact and also indicated use of that facility.

8. Please explain below what this impact would be

1217 respondents provided a response to this question. The main impacts highlighted included concerns around accessibility issues, a loss of community identity, impact on mental health and social isolation particularly to those from vulnerable population groups, also the impact on availability of sporting activities for health and wellbeing.

Accessibility

A large majority of respondents highlighted concern about the increased distance they would need to travel to access services at the East End Campus, it was felt that this would be particularly challenging for those with mobility issues or without access to reliable transportation, respondents who had issues with mobility mentioned the difficulties of walking long distances to the new facility.

Respondents who rely on public transportation indicated the increased cost of travelling to a new location alongside the lack of suitable transport services being available, particularly during weekends and evenings. It was felt that this would particularly affect vulnerable groups, including the elderly, people with disabilities and those on low incomes who may find additional travel time and costs insurmountable barriers. Parents mentioned difficulties of walking to the new campus to attend activities with small children. Some felt that accessibility issues could lead to the potential loss of access to community services such as community cafes, food larders and support services would exacerbate financial strain on already vulnerable populations.

Those who had their own transportation indicated that they had concerns around the availability of parking at the campus and issues that insufficient parking could bring.

Concerns were highlighted about whether the facilities will be accessible to the public during school hours and how all the current activities held at each location could be accommodated within one building. There was concern that the new campus will not be able to accommodate all existing activities and services currently offered at each of the individual centres, leading to a reduction in available resources and support. How access would be managed was given particular mention and the impact on the safety and security of both pupils and community members who would be using the facilities.

Impact on mental health and social isolation

There was a strong consensus from respondents that relocation would negatively impact their mental health, indicating that the current facilities provide a strong sense of community, familiarity and support which could be lost in a larger, new environment. It was highlighted that the current facilities offer various classes and activities that help reduce feelings of isolation, especially for parents with young children, elderly individuals and those with disabilities and mental health issues. Concern was given that relocation and the navigation of a new facility could disrupt these routines and social connections, leading to challenge of increased isolation and associated negative impacts on mental health.

A number of respondents from younger age groups stated that attending a school building for their activities would be detrimental to their mental health due to their poor experiences in a school environment, there was a strong preference to attend groups outside of the school. Also mentioned was the stigma around accessing services such as foodbanks and larders within a school environment and the potential loss of access these services.

Community Identity

Many respondents felt that merging all the sites would potentially result in the loss of individual identities that each site currently has which is seen as being important for community cohesion and connection.

Respondents felt that community centres and libraries in particular provide a vital service for those who live within disadvantaged areas and the services they provide are vital to support residents of these areas, particularly children, low income families and the elderly. The movement of these to a different location could cause community spirit to be diminished leading to loneliness and isolation.

It was felt by some that the closure of community facilities could leave the community feeling isolated and underserved leading to accessibility issues for services, concern was also shown around a rise in anti-social behaviour if buildings are left unused for a period of time.

Impact on activities

Users of the Douglas Sports Centre were particularly concerned about the impact on the sports activities available and whether the new facilities will be able to accommodate the same level of service. It was felt that there was a lack of suitable other facilities across the city which can accommodate particular activities such as indoor hockey, pickleball and specific health recovery related activities. Respondents stated that as Douglas Sports Centre is unique in the facilities it can provide if these are not available at the new campus then this will impact on sports participation, health and wellbeing and opportunities to participate in competitive leagues.

Some stated that the closure of libraries would have a significant impact on the community. It was felt that libraries offer much more than just books and are essential for different members of the community, including parents, young people and the elderly. A number of respondents stated that libraries are seen as safe spaces and that they need to be local and accessible for those in particular with financial limitations or mobility needs. The impact of relocating three libraries within one space was highlighted as a concern.

It was highlighted that specialised programmes which provide support to young people in particular and their families at the community centre are currently located within close walking proximity to the primary school and their homes ensuring these are easily accessible to the community, difficulties in providing dedicated transport along with associated costs were raised as a particular concern.

9. Are there any changes that could be made to lessen any impact for you?

1008 respondents provided a response to this question. Most strongly favoured keeping the current facilities open, citing their importance to the community and potential negative impacts of closure. Some however were open to alternative options if mitigations were implemented.

Several respondents suggested a dedicated community transport service with disability access that runs frequently to improve accessibility to the new facilities. Improvements to the current bus routes were also mentioned to ensure full access to the new facility.

There was a strong emphasis on the availability and general improvement of facilities across other venues in the city or provision which could ensure that adequate facilities are still available for the activities which are currently only possible in the Douglas Sports Centre. Some stated that operating hours and services on offer at other facilities such as Grove Academy should be explored as an alternative, current opening hours seen as being restrictive.

Some stated that it needs to be ensured that the spaces within the new facility are fully suitable to the activities which currently take place within the community facilities and that they meet specific need. It was suggested that if the sports centre was transferred to another provider, negotiations should ensure that use of it continued to be available by certain groups as part of any asset transfer agreement.

With regard to library provision, it was suggested that some form of provision still be in place, possibly in local schools or by combining the hub and the library, keeping current facilities but operating these on a reduced hours basis.

Regarding accessing activities at the campus, respondents felt that it needed to be ensured that safe walking routes and crossing points are in place with good lighting. Adequate parking needs to be in place at all times of the day along with suitable disabled access.

The need for easy and full access to facilities which is not impacted by school use in terms of timings was cited, stating that the operating hours of the schools should have no impact on the availability of the facilities to general public.

10. If you do not currently use any of the services at these facilities, would you be likely to use them if they are all located within one facility at the East End Community Campus?

This question is not showing results as would have been expected, in Q2 47 respondents stated that they did not use any of the facilities therefore it can be seen below that those who do currently use facilities have responded to this question with a total response of 938.



Base: 938

11. The options below are being considered for the current facilities if no longer required by DCC or Leisure and Culture Dundee. Do you have any feedback or suggestions on these options or on alternative suggestions?

Using them for other purposes;

- Transferring them to community organisations
- Selling the buildings
- Closing the buildings

There were 873 responses to this question.

Overall, there was significant opposition to any changes that would result in the closure or repurposing of the facilities, particularly Douglas Community Centre and Douglas Sports Centre, with most respondents preferring the council to keep them local, open and operational.

Respondents did highlight some alternate suggestions which included, looking at alternative ways to keep facilities running, such as community asset transfer to local groups, local and national sporting organisations or third-sector parties and seeking external grants.

Those who suggested transferring facilities to the community or other organisations emphasised the need for strong support and stable financial models to ensure that community organisations could successfully manage these assets. Others pointed out that without adequate support, community asset transfers might fail, and the facilities should remain council funded long term.

If there was no other options, selling them rather than closing was seen as preferable with the profits from any sale being used to fund community projects or to upgrade other provisions across the city.

Further Feedback

834 respondents gave further feedback, much of this was similar to the feedback given in Q8 however some additional points were made.

There was some sentiment that it was difficult to give opinion on relocation of any services from the facilities without clearer information on what will be available at the new campus location in terms of alternative options, facilities, booking systems and wider resources, stating that without this information it was hard to say what any impact would be. Given that the new facility was due to open soon it was felt that the consultation should have occurred during the planning stage of the new facility, some felt that this approach undermines the purpose of public engagement, leaving many community members feeling powerless.

Many users pointed out the high footfall of the community and sports centre, questioning the need to even consider closing such well-used and financially viable facilities.

It was felt by some that no decisions should be made until a period of time after the new campus is open so that there is an opportunity to assess the new facilities and gauge opinion then on what is required to relocate services. Some cited experience of using similar community campus spaces in other local authorities and being aware of difficult issues around sharing of spaces, resources and storage.

There was further feedback from some respondents around similar relocations from other facilities across the city such as the Lynch Centre to Menzieshill Community Hub which were felt had not worked successfully due to the similar concerns raised within this consultation, particularly that around accessibility.

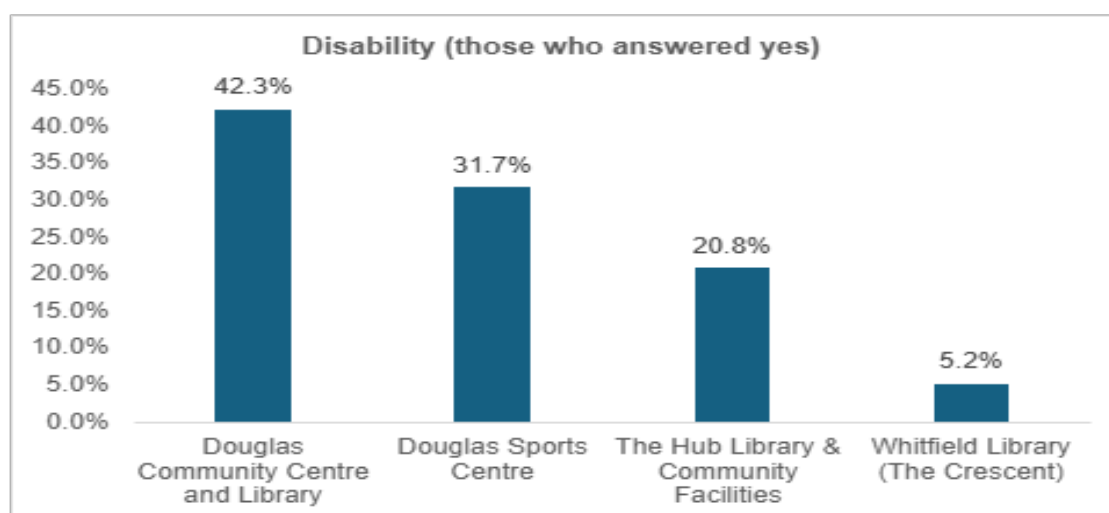
A number of respondents had concerns about increased traffic and congestion around the new campus particularly during school opening and closing times, and the overall impact on traffic in the area on what is seen as an already busy road.

There were concerns about accessibility for people with mobility issues, including the need for close parking, ramps, and specialised facilities and equipment required by some groups who currently use facilities for specific health related recovery activities.

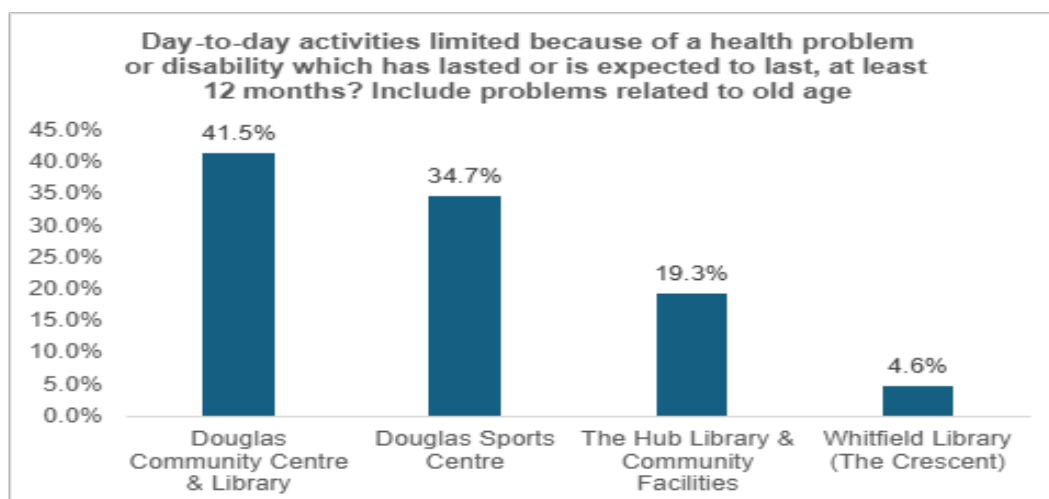
PROTECTED CHARACTERISTIC AND AREA BREAKDOWNS

The percentage is based on the total number of those who met the characteristics criteria and indicated they used that facility. Note that respondents could indicate use of more than one facility therefore the base will be larger than the total respondents who had this characteristic in the overall survey.

DISABILITIES AND HEALTH CONDITIONS

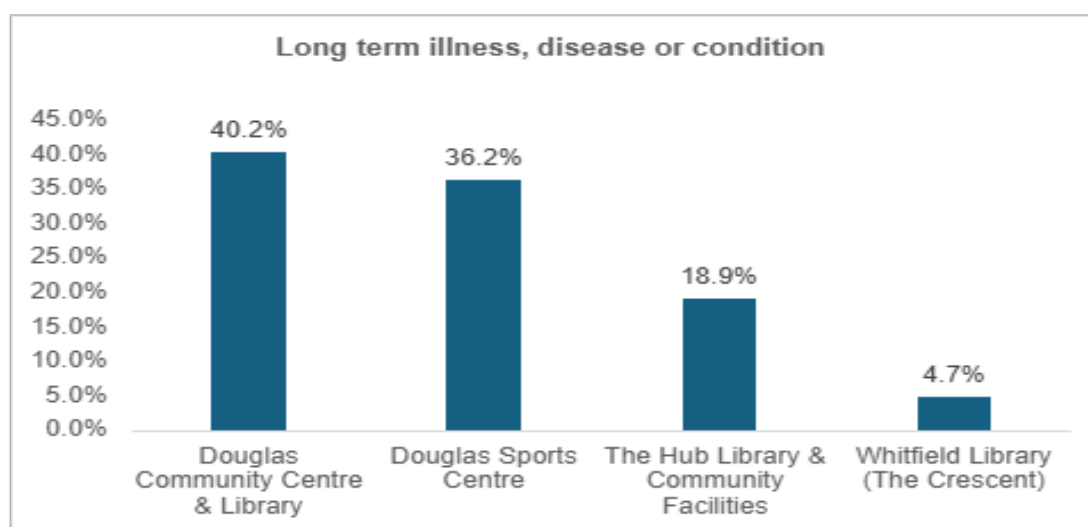


Base: 504



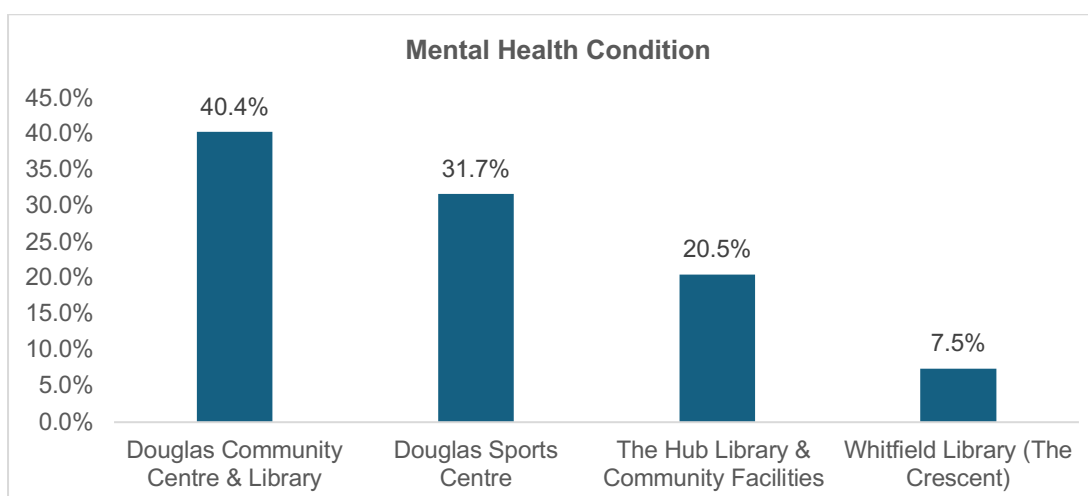
Base: 545

Long-term illness, disease or condition



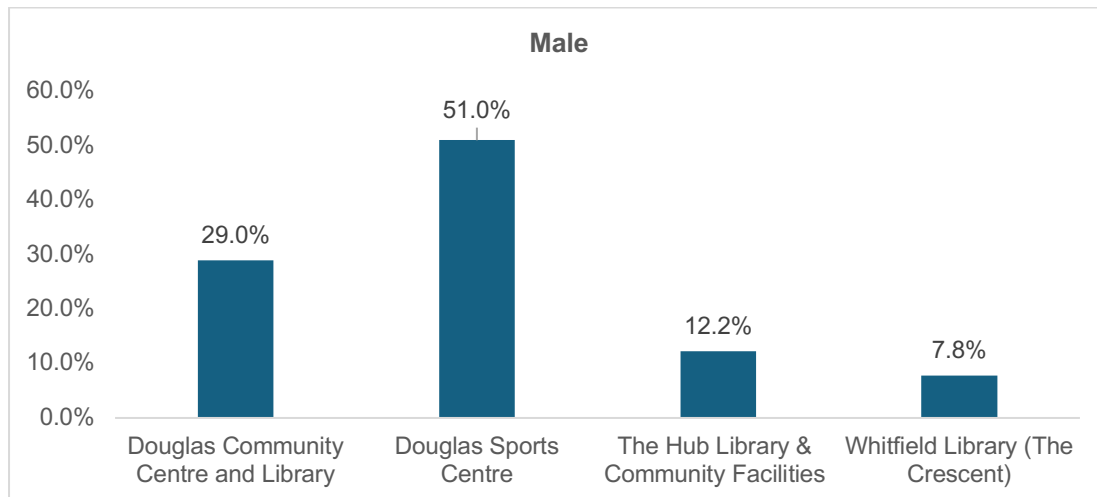
Base: 301

Mental Health Condition

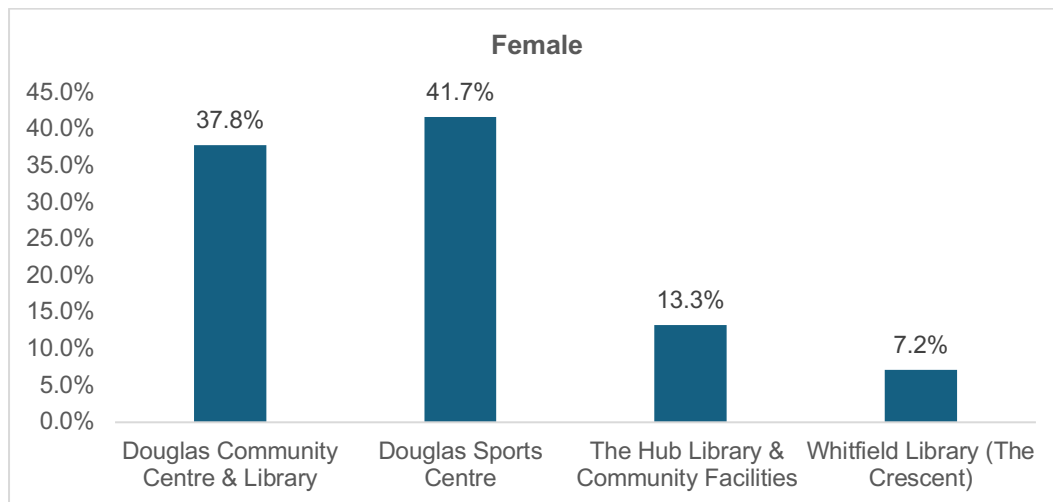


Base: 322

SEX

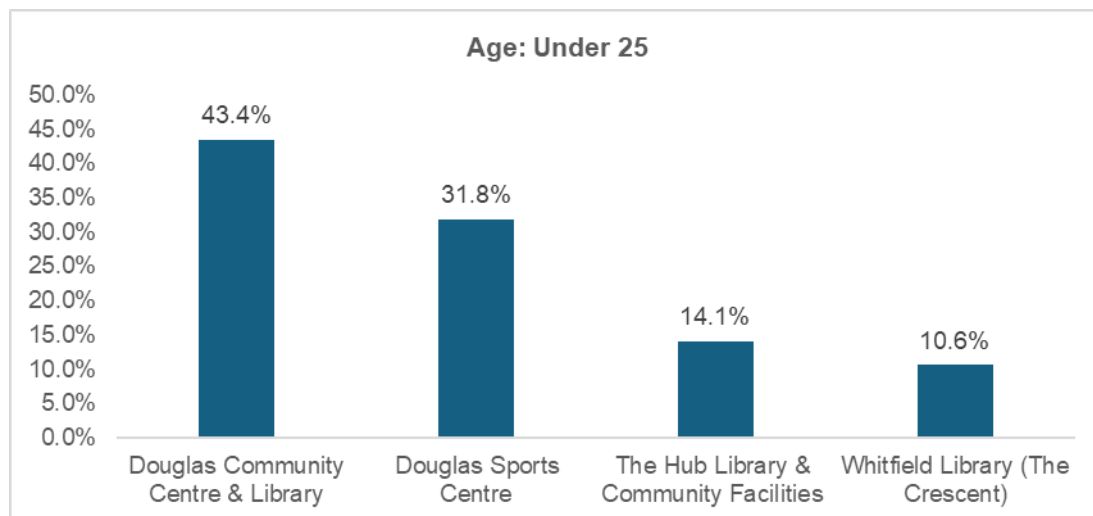


Base: 670

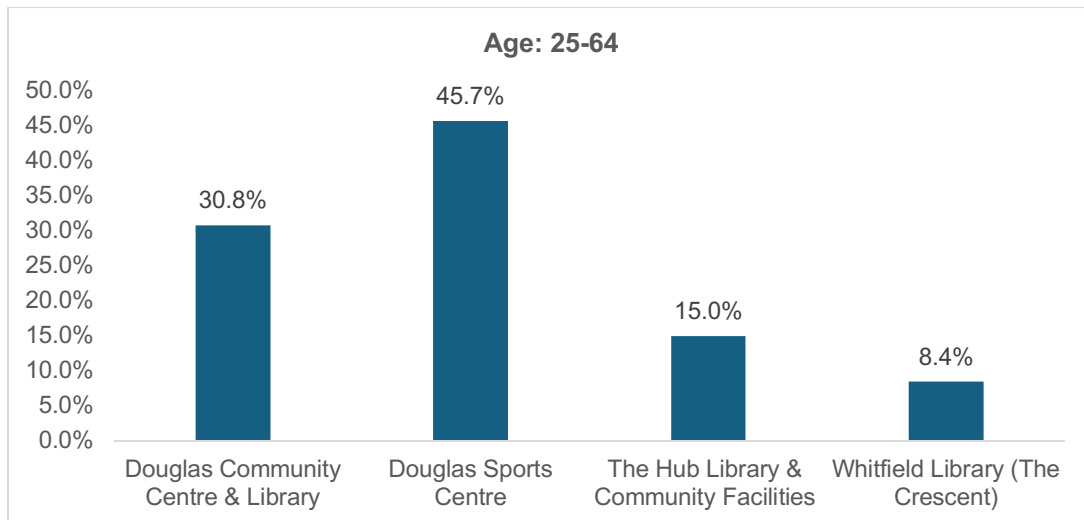


Base: 1074

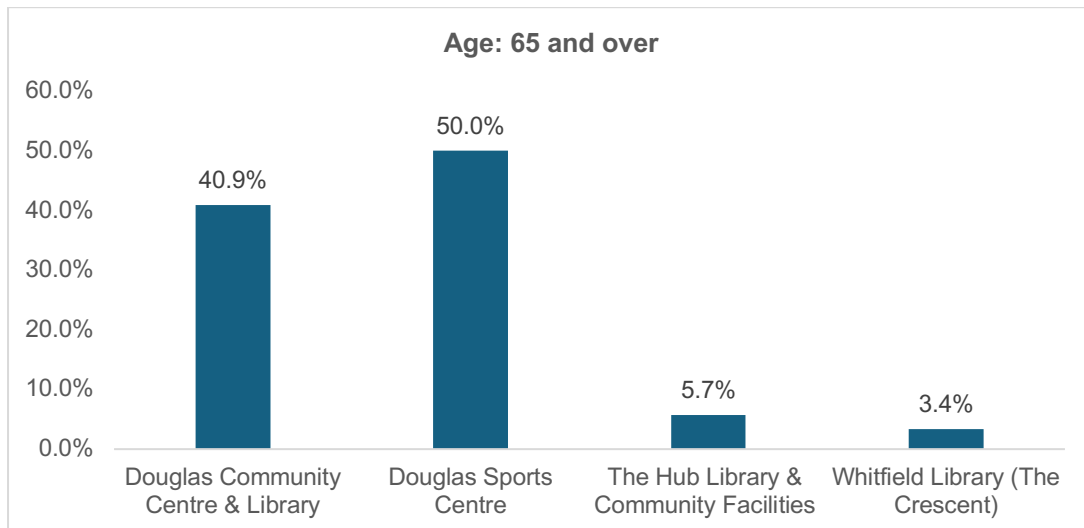
AGE



Base: 198

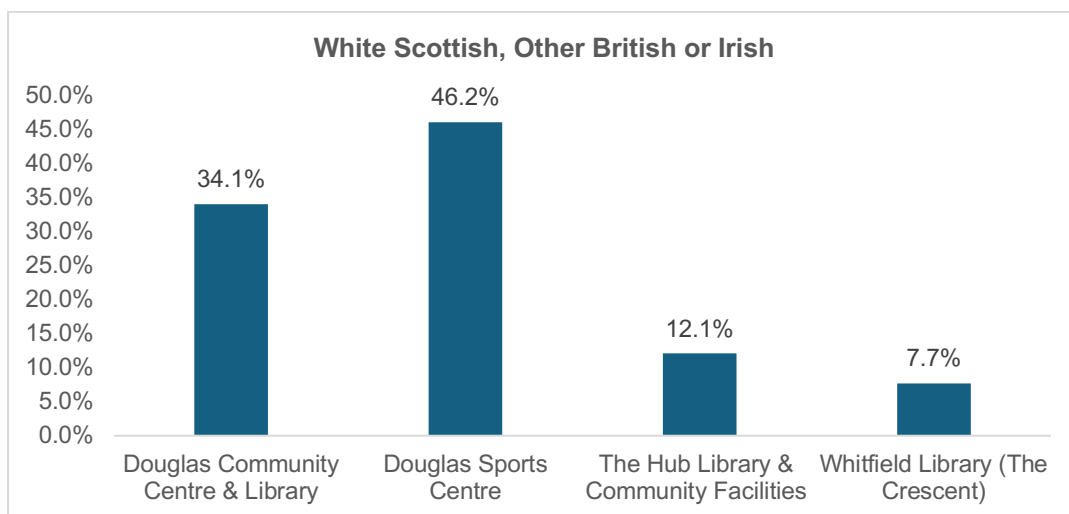


Base: 1172

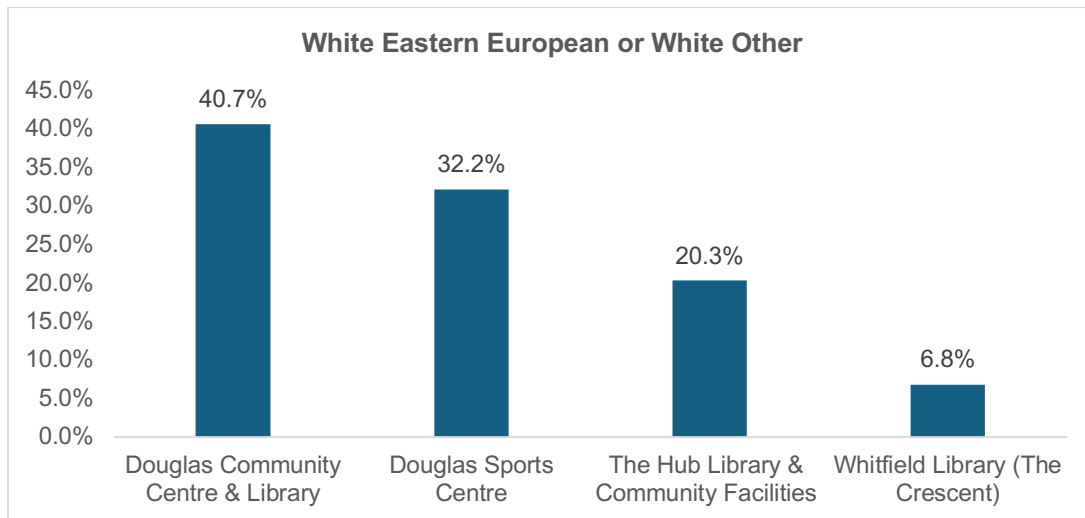


Base: 384

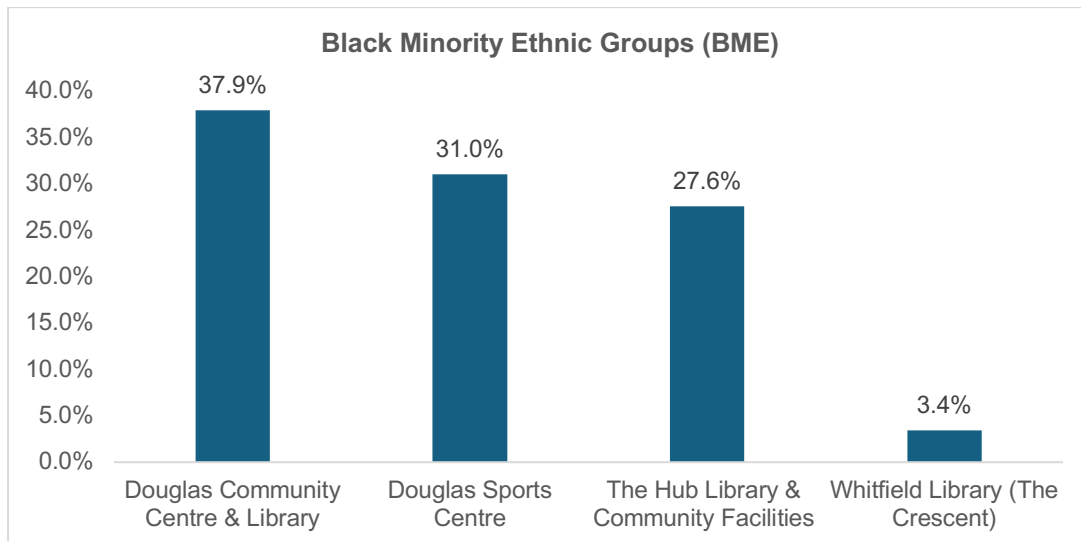
ETHNICITY



Base: 1599

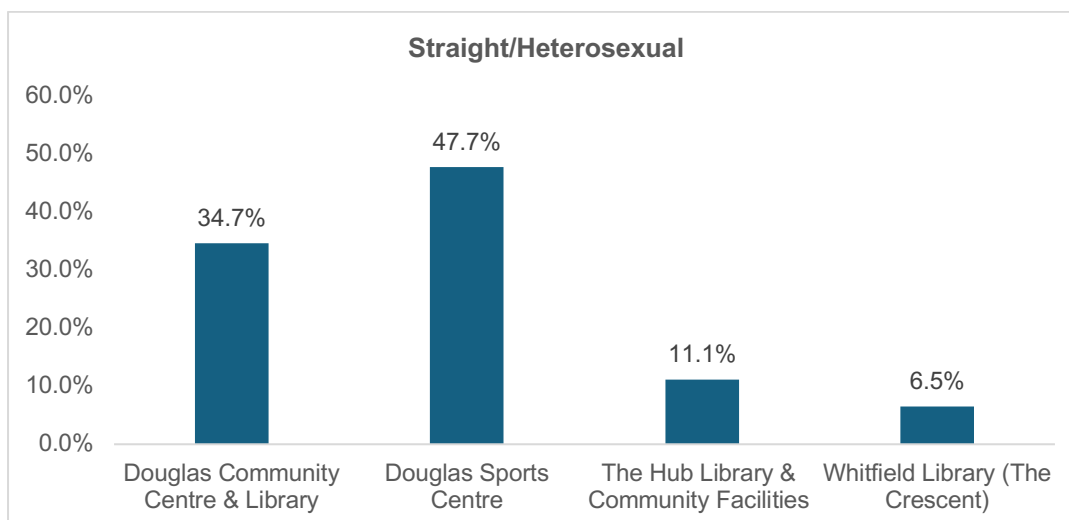


Base: 59

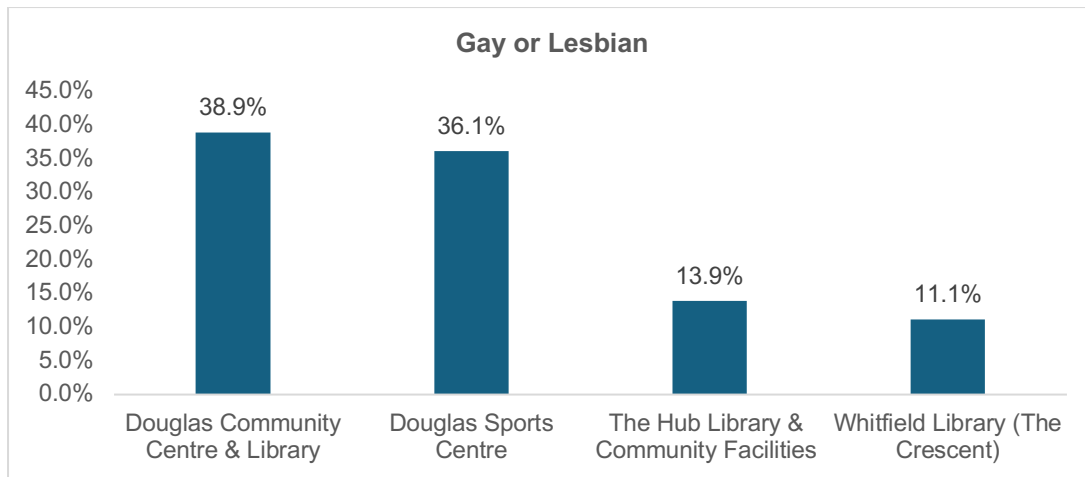


Base: 58

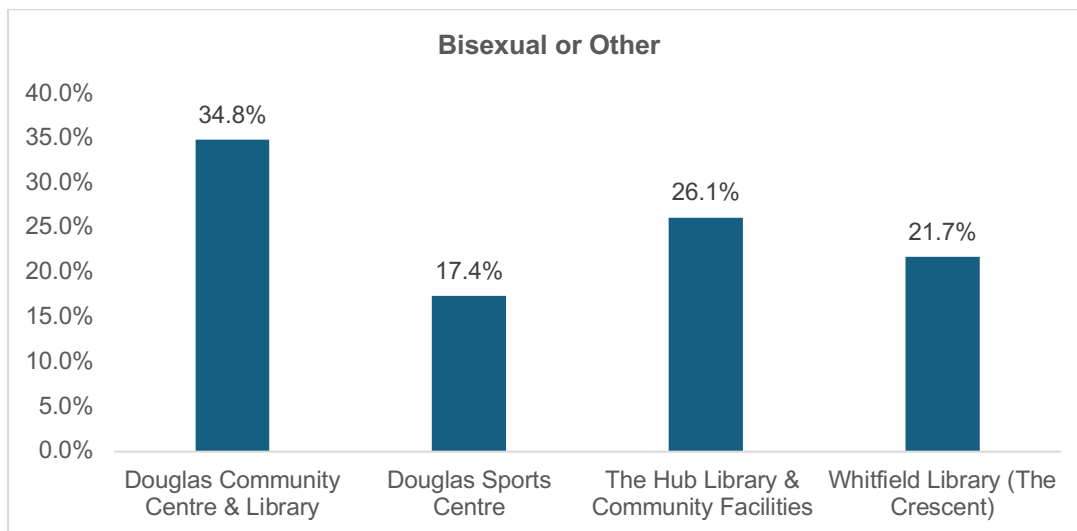
SEXUAL ORIENTATION



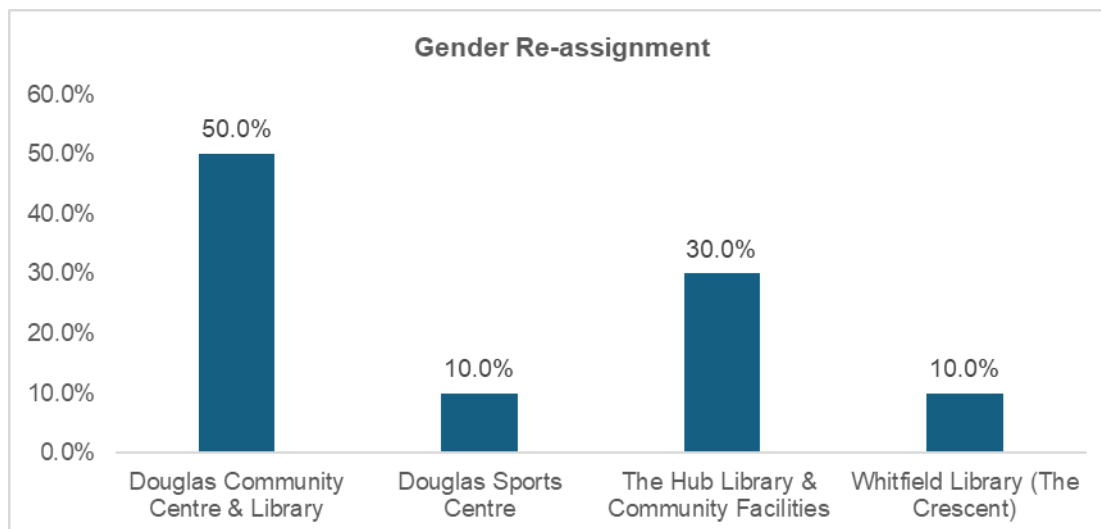
Base: 1457



Base: 36

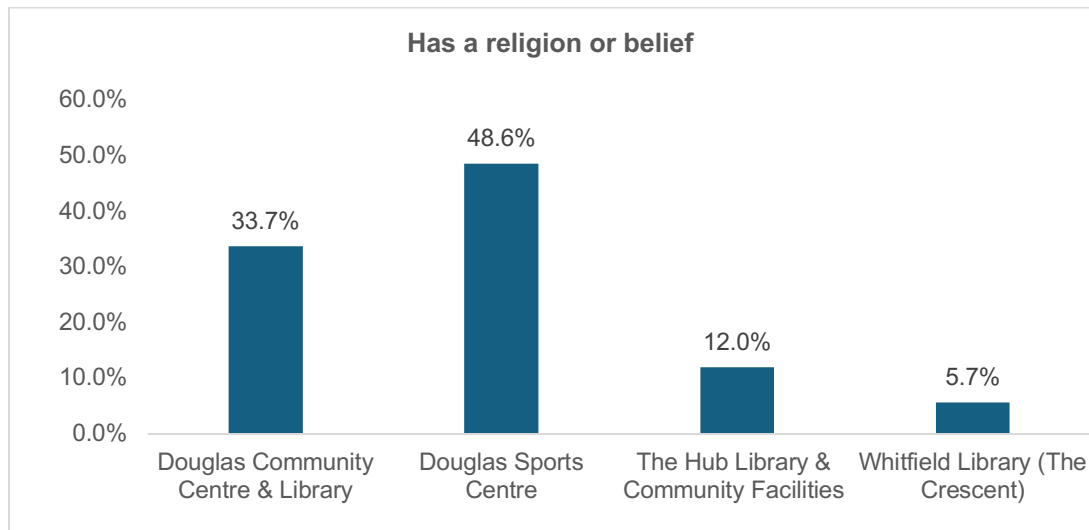


Base: 23

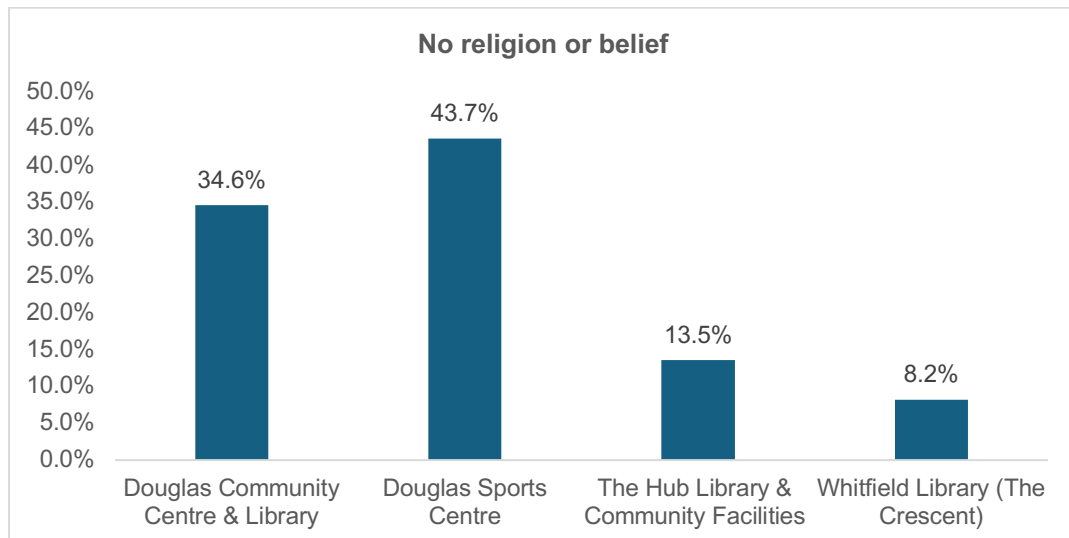


Base: 10

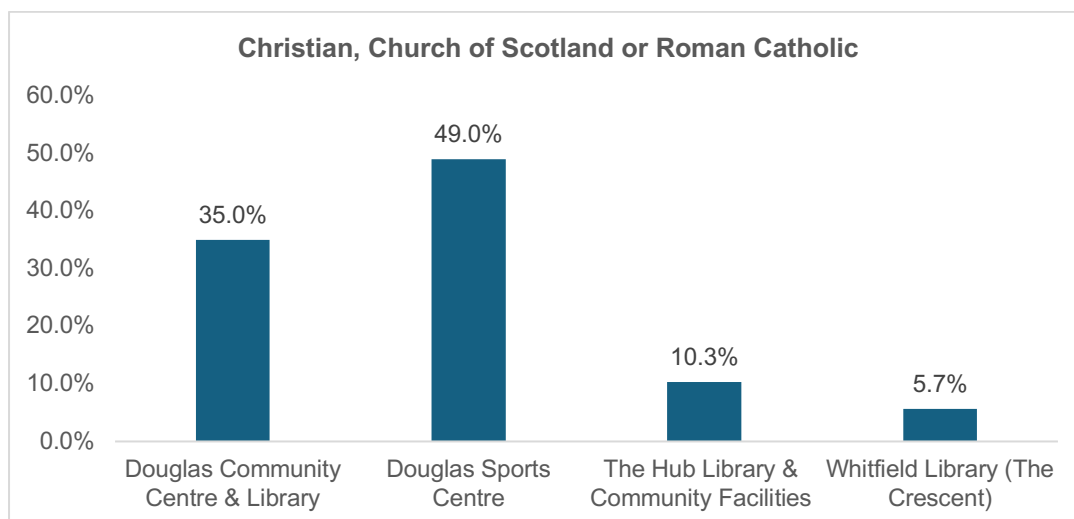
RELIGION



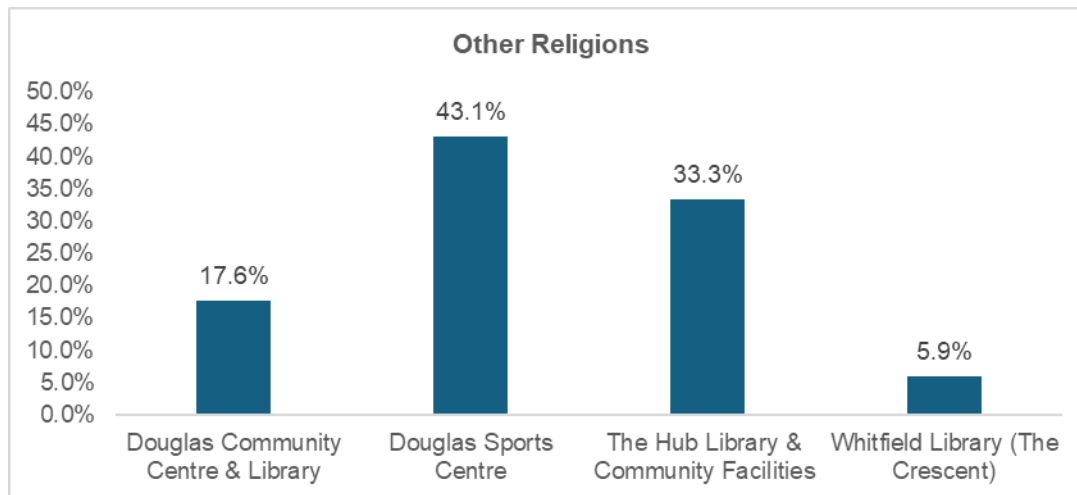
Base: 700



Base: 827

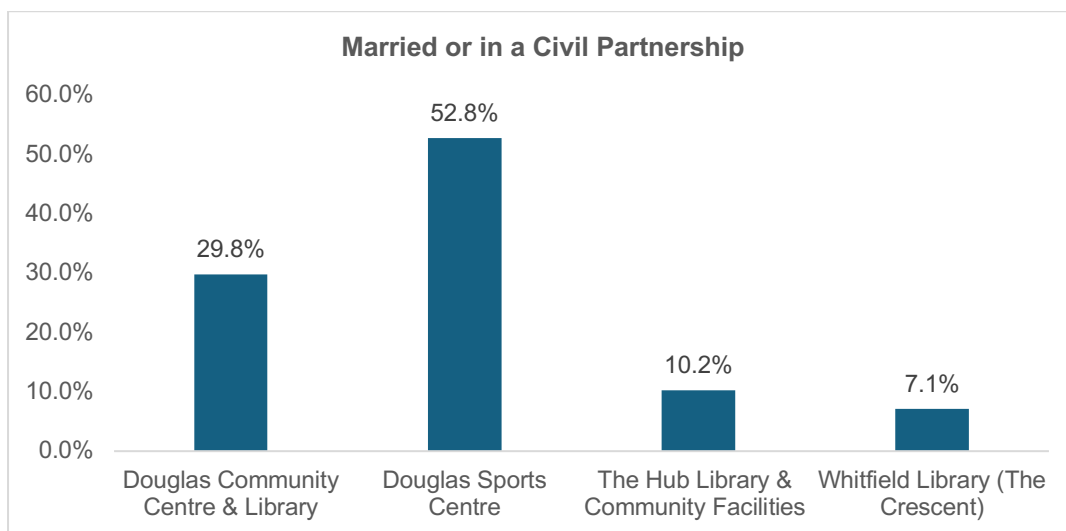


Base: 649



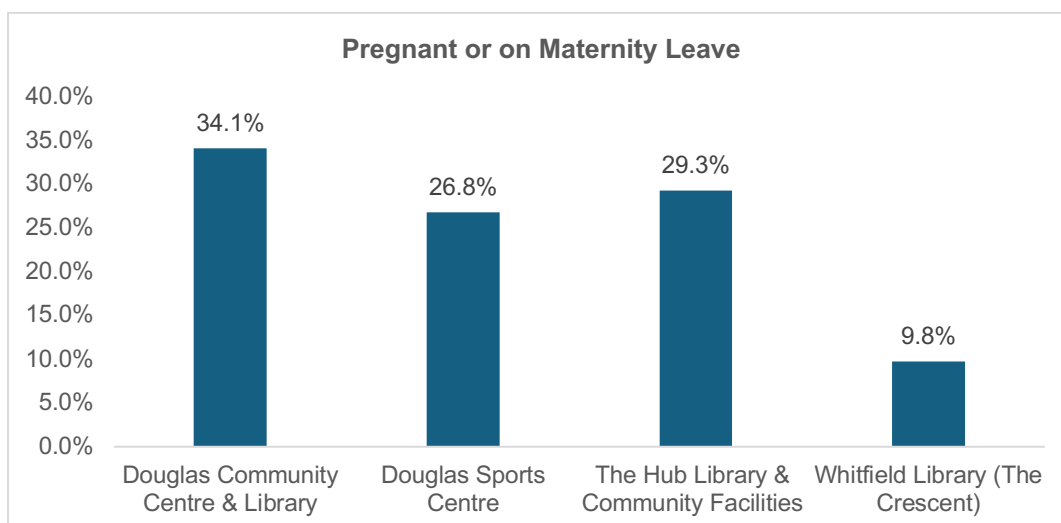
Base: 51

LEGAL MARITAL STATUS



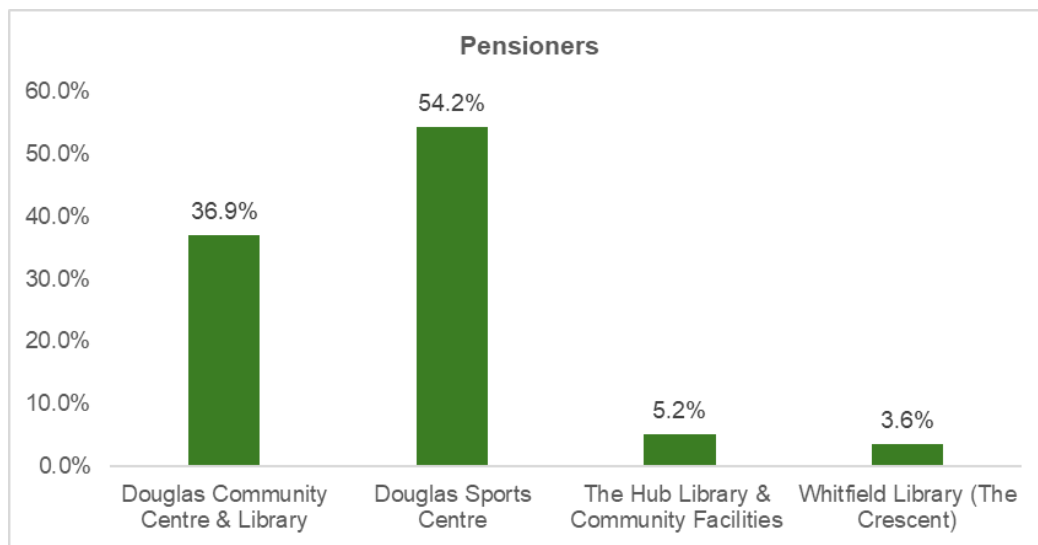
Source: 674

PREGNANCY OR MATERNITY LEAVE

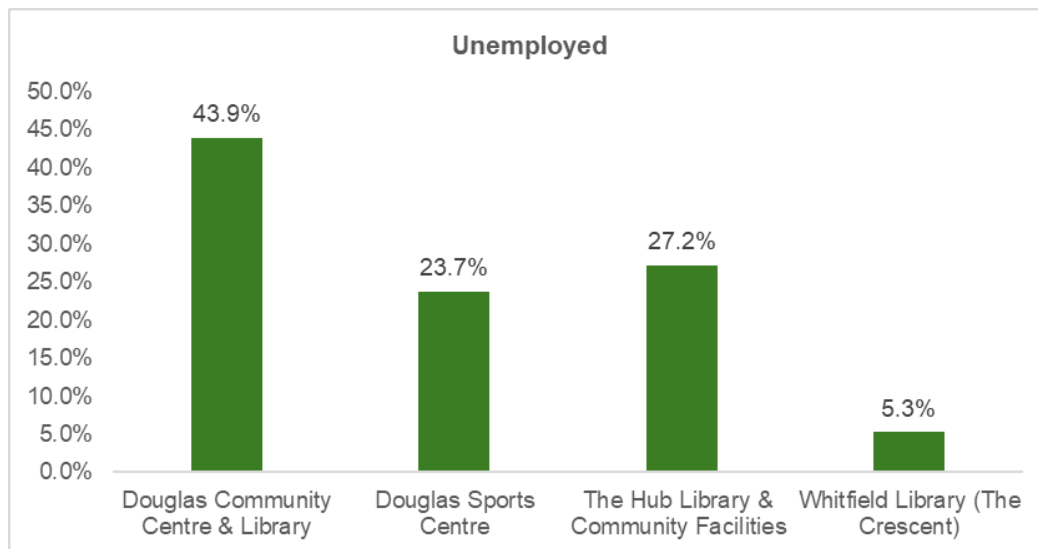


Base: 41

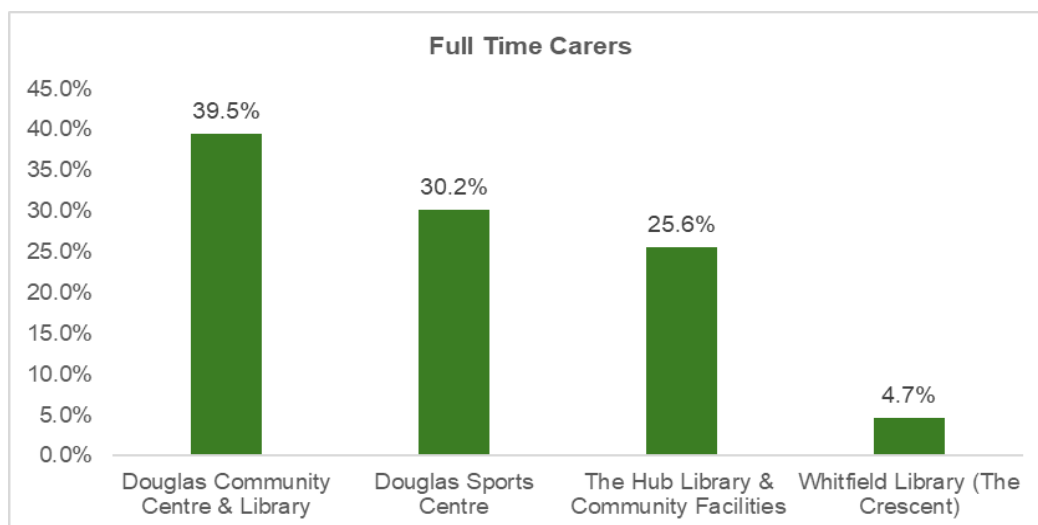
SOCIO – ECONOMIC



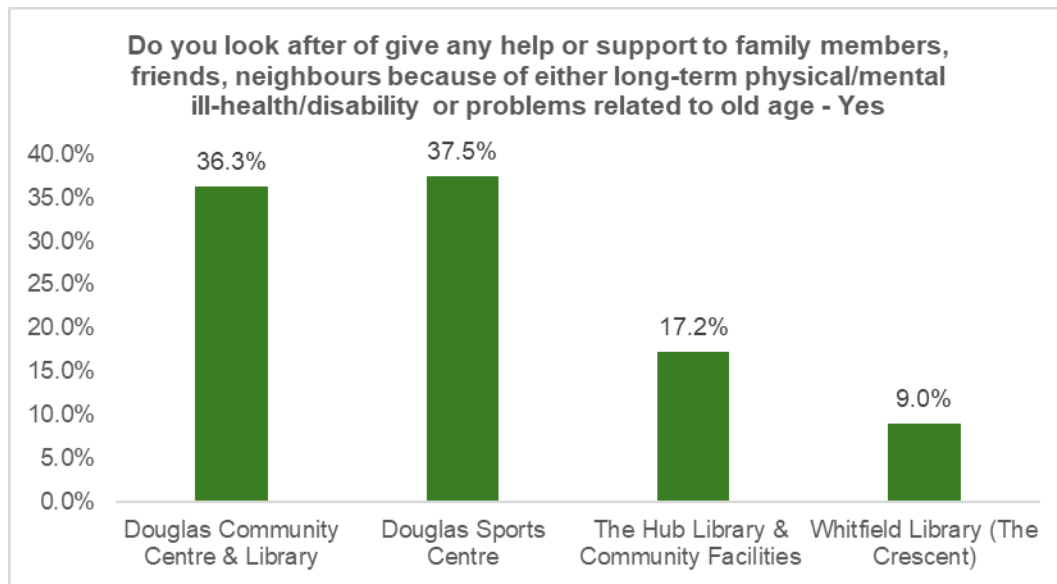
Base: 439



Base: 114

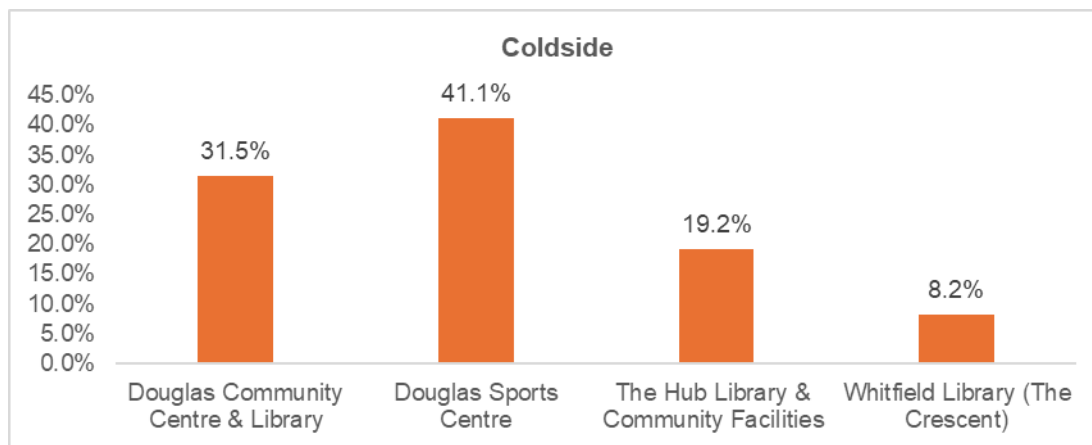


Base: 43

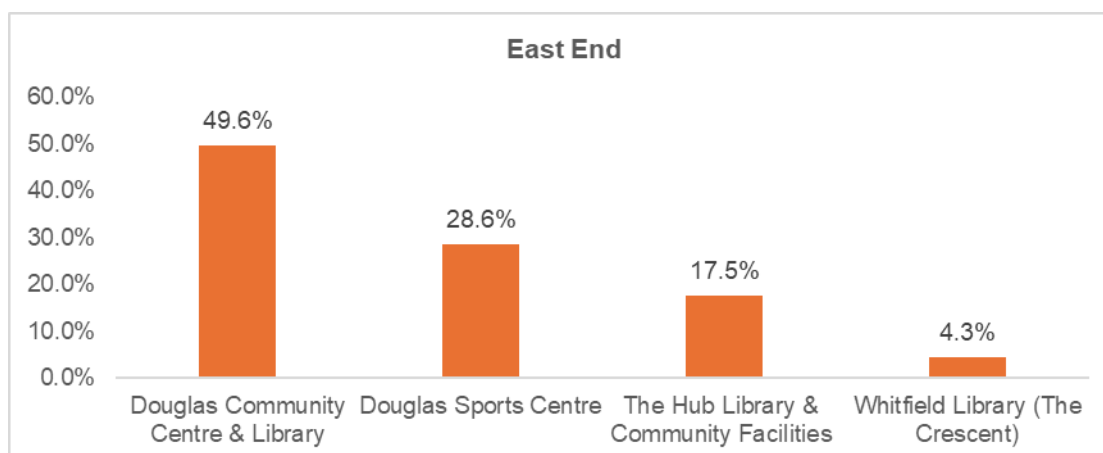


Base: 658

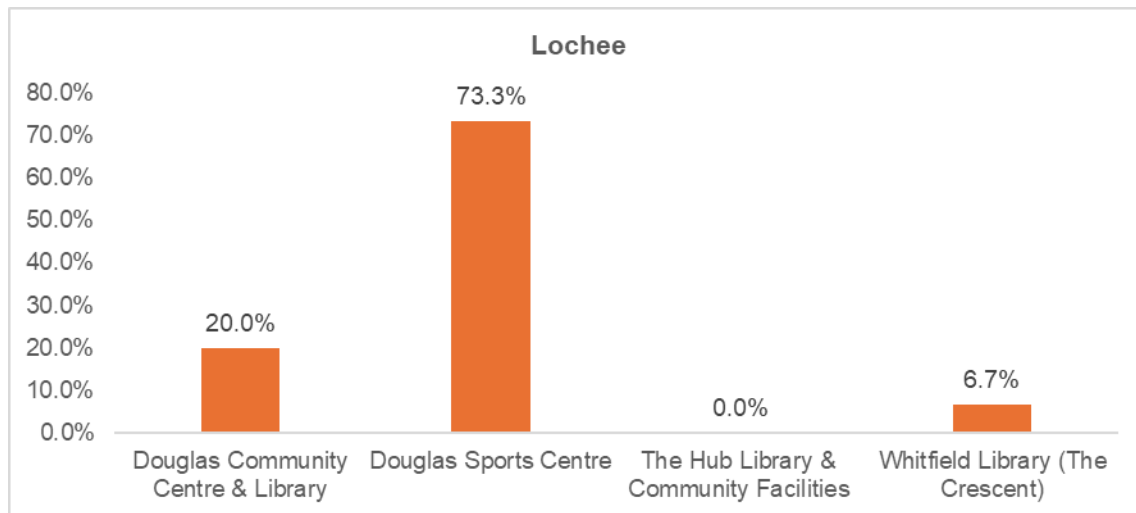
GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN



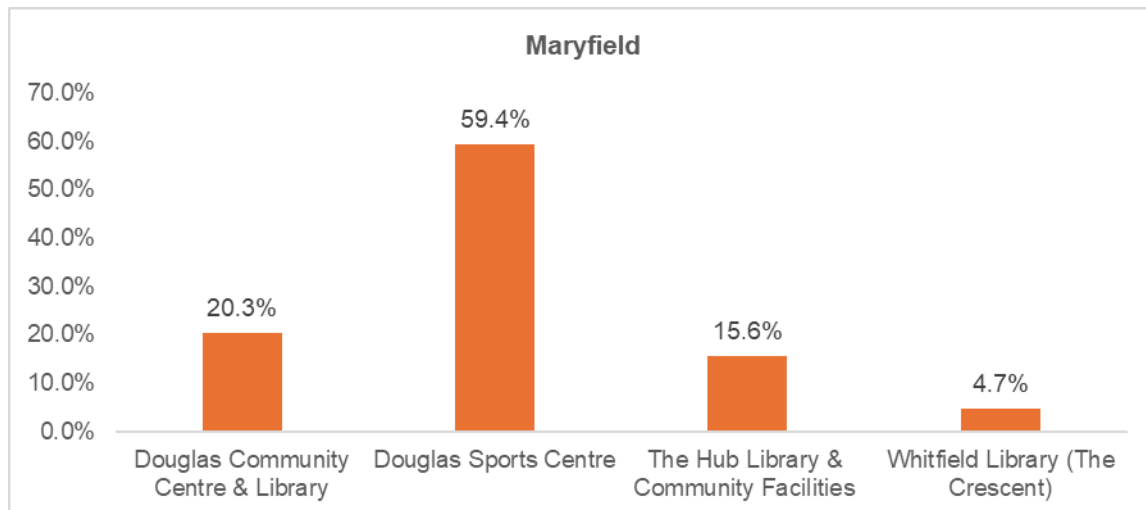
Base: 73



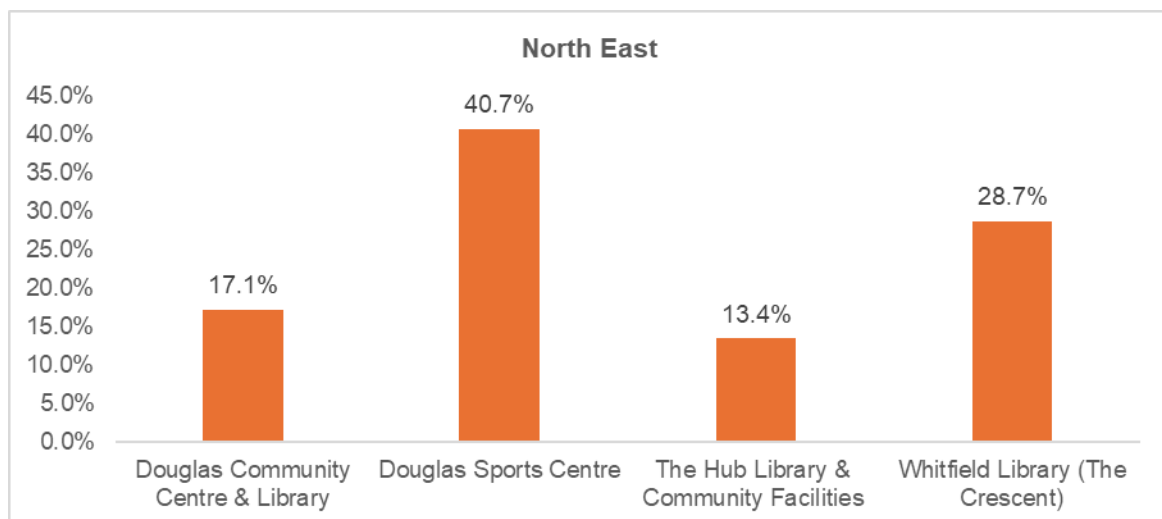
Base: 798



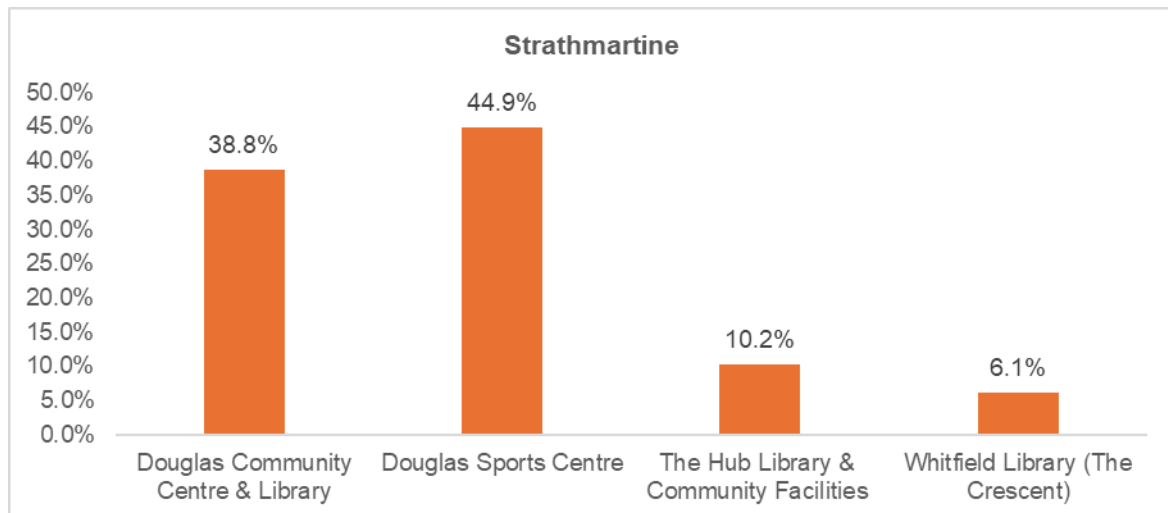
Base: 15



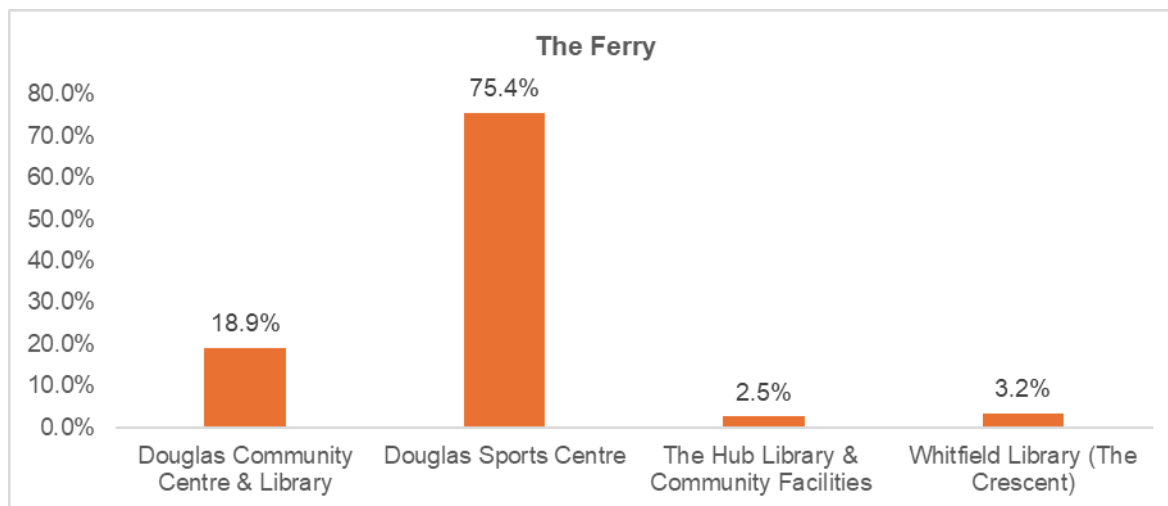
Base: 64



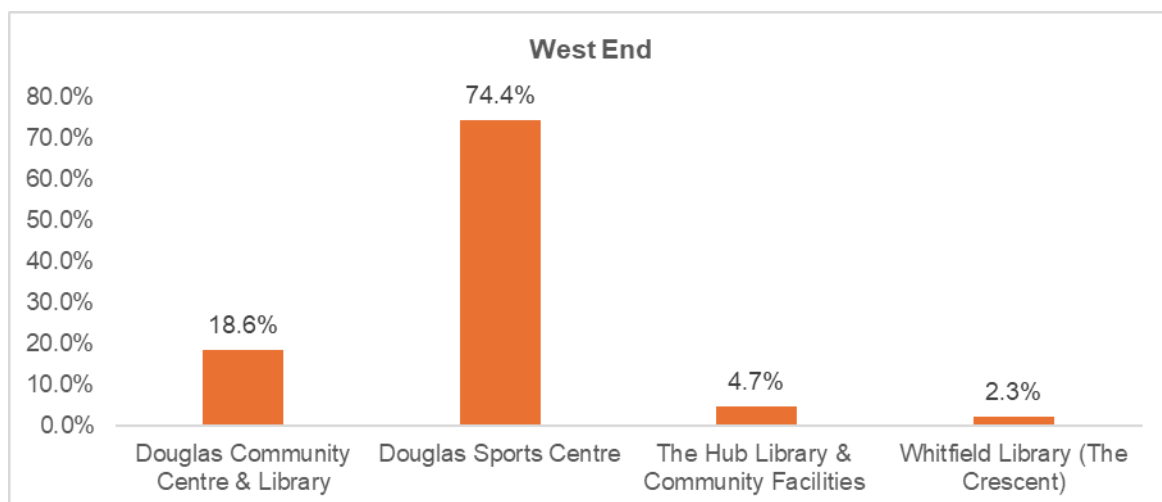
Base: 216



Base: 49



Base: 285

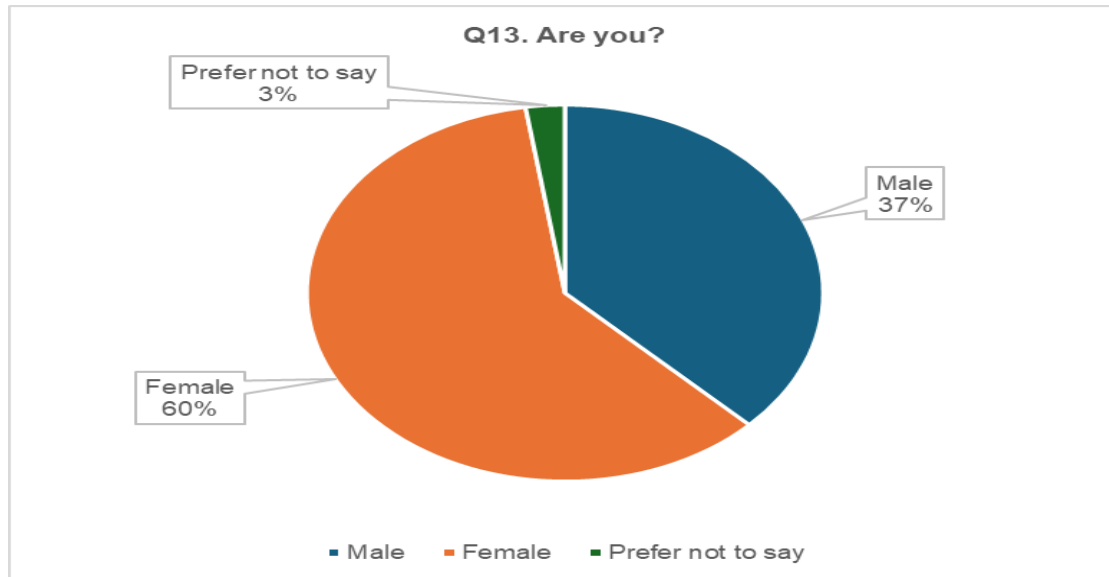


Base: 43

DEMOGRAPHICS

SEX

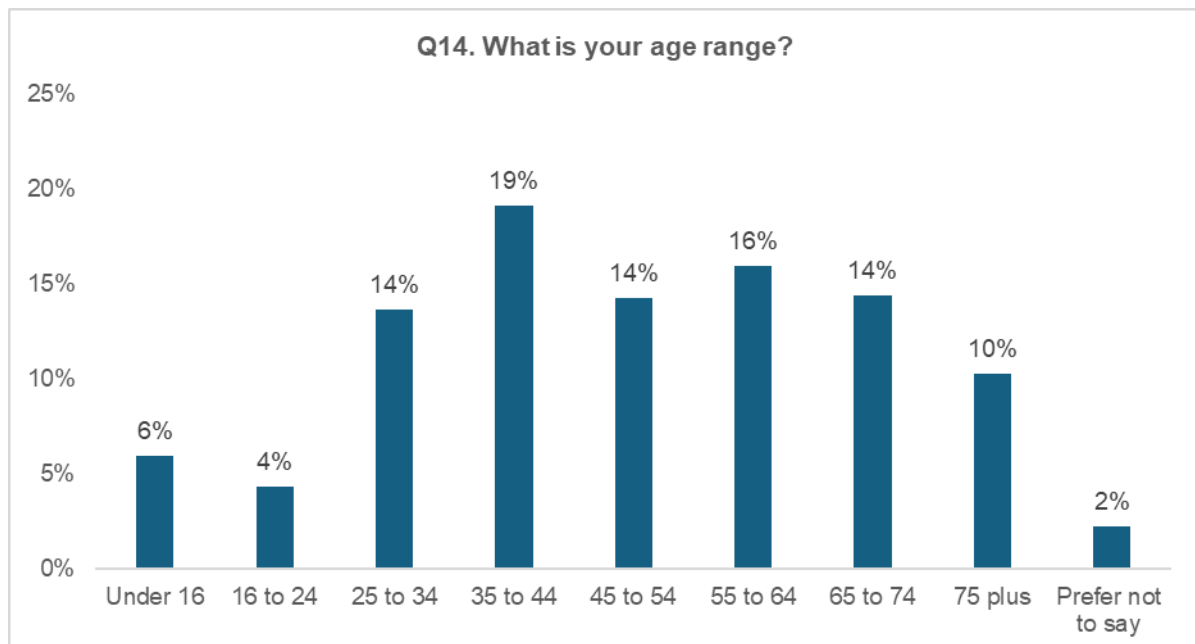
Most respondents (60%) stated that they were female and 37% stated that they were male. Three per cent of respondents stated that they would prefer not to say when asked this question.



Base: 1306

AGE

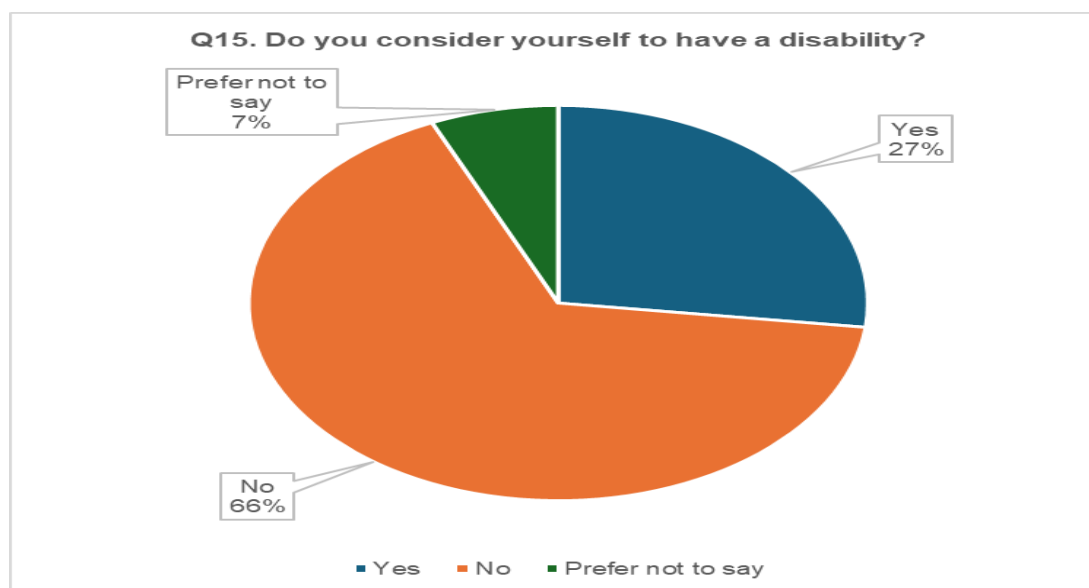
Six per cent of respondents were under 16 years of age, 4% were aged 16 to 24 years, 14% were aged 25 to 34 years, 19% were aged 35-44 years, 14% were aged 45 to 54 years and 16% were aged 55 to 64 years. Those aged 65 to 74 years accounted for 14% and 10% of respondents stated that they were 75 years and over. Two per cent of respondents stated that they would prefer not to say their age.



Base:1310

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

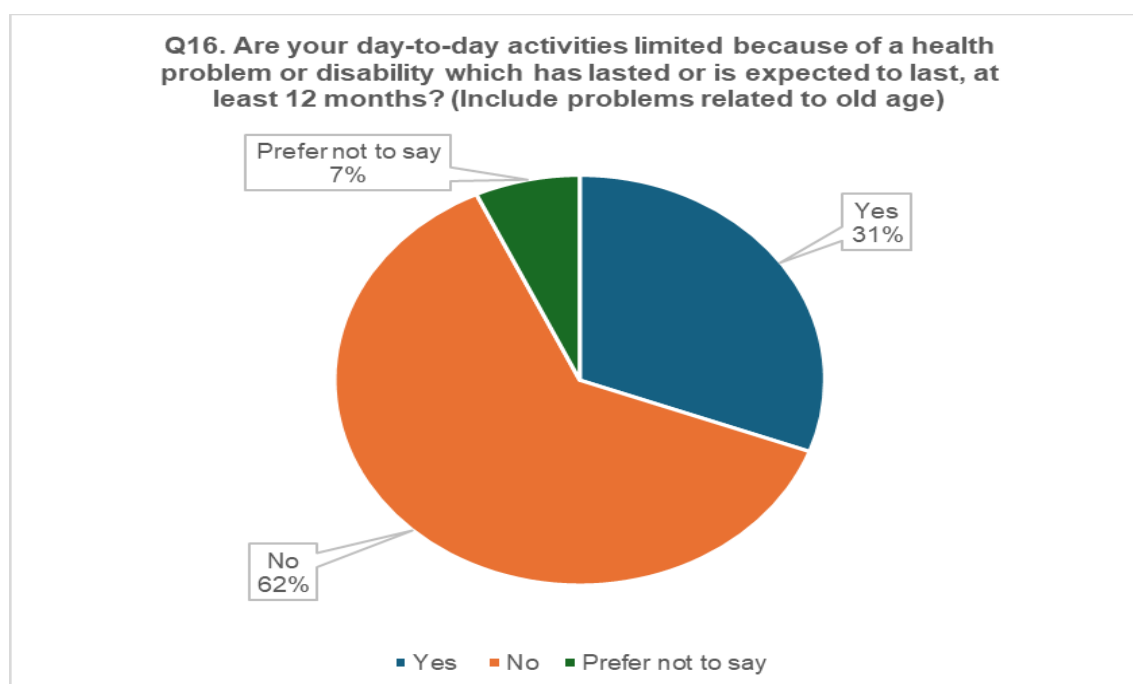
Most respondents (66%) stated that they did not have a disability. Twenty seven per cent of respondents stated that they did have a disability and 7% stated that they would prefer not to say.



Base: 1302

Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted or is expected to last, at least 12 months? Include problems related to old age

Most respondents (62%) stated that their day-to-day activities were not limited because of a health problem or a disability which has lasted or is expected to last at least 12 months. Thirty one per cent of respondents stated that their day-to-day activities were limited when asked this question and 7% of respondents stated that they would prefer not to say.

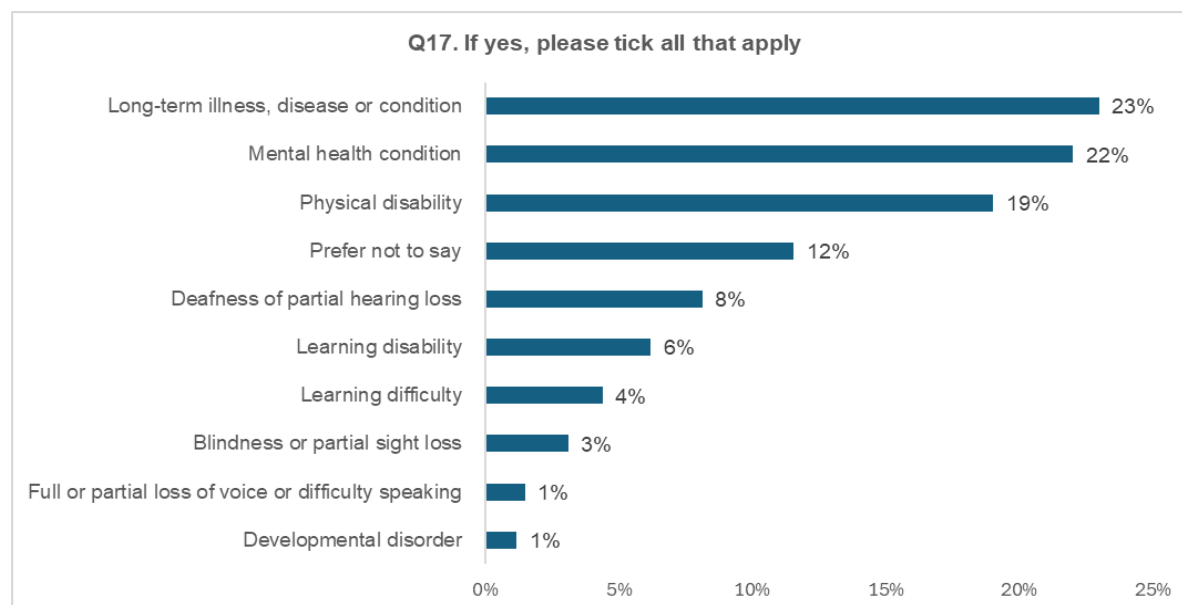


Base: 1285

DISABILITIES AND HEALTH CONDITIONS

Respondents who answered yes to the above question were presented with a list of disabilities and health conditions and were asked to tick all that apply to them. The top three responses from those who provided a response to this question were:

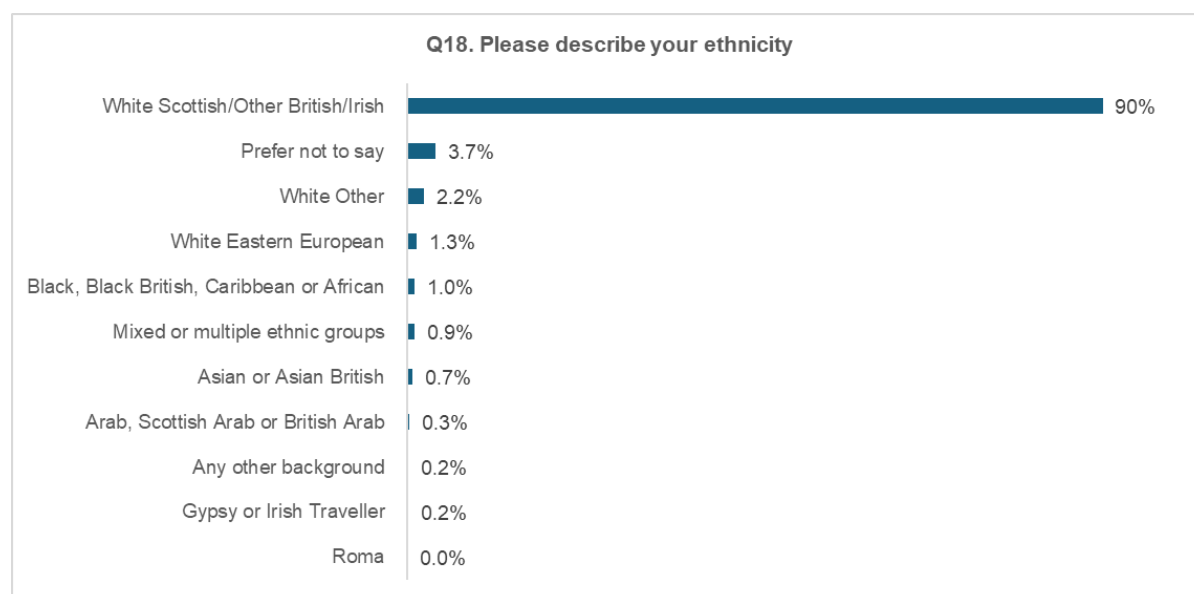
- Long-term illness, disease or condition (23%)
- Mental health condition (22%)
- Physical disability (19%)



Base: 936

ETHNICITY

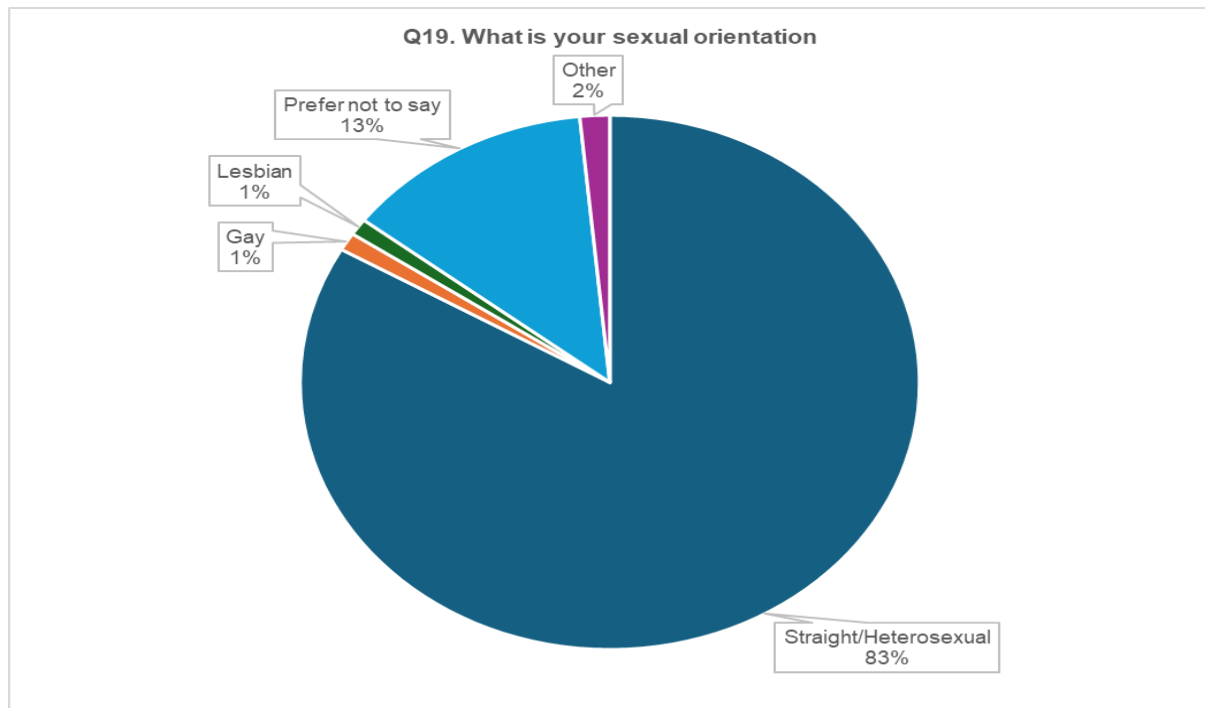
Most respondents (90%) stated their ethnicity as White Scottish/Other British/Irish. Four per cent of respondents stated that they would prefer not to say their ethnicity. Two per cent of respondents stated their ethnicity as White other. A response of 1% was given to each of the following ethnicities, White Eastern European, Black, Black British, Caribbean or African, Mixed or multiple ethnic groups and Asian or Asian British. Less than 1% of respondents stated their ethnicity as either Arab, Scottish Arab or British Arab (0.3%), Any other background (0.2%) or Gypsy or Irish Traveller (0.2%).



Base:1307

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

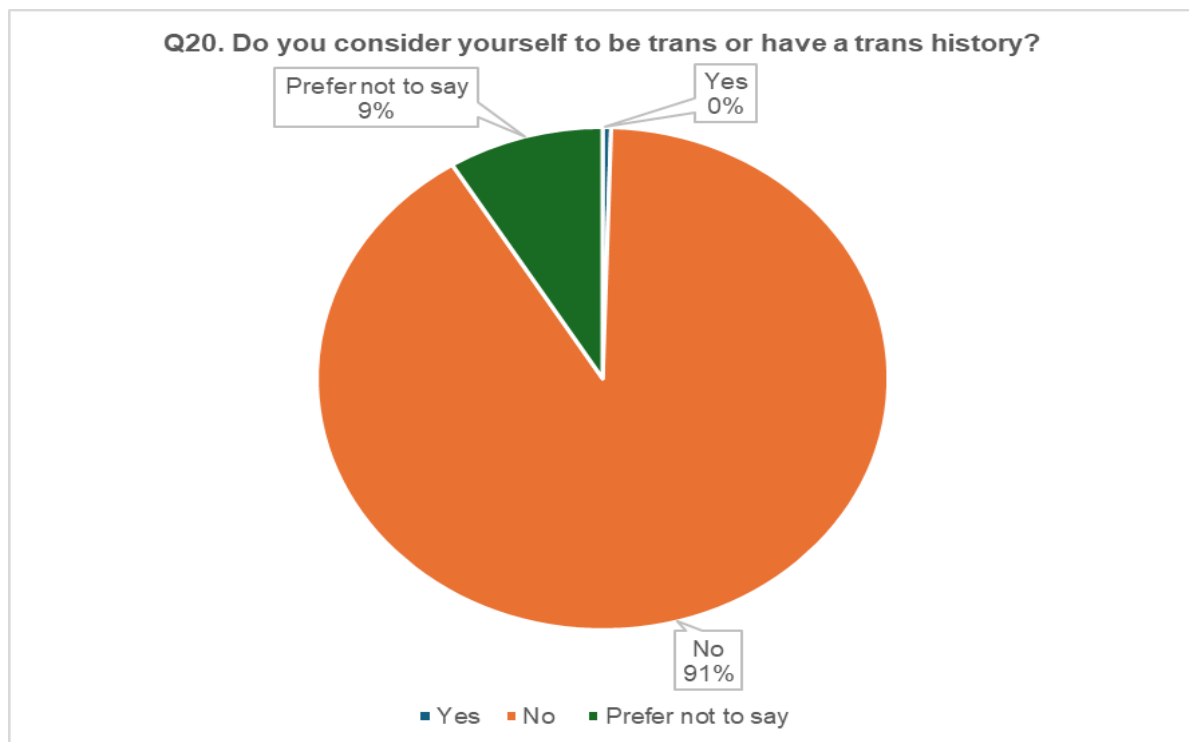
Most respondents (83%) stated their sexual orientation as Straight/Heterosexual. Thirteen per cent stated that they would prefer not to say, 2% stated Other, 1% stated Gay and 1% stated Lesbian.



Base: 1287

DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF TO BE TRANS OR HAVE A TRANS HISTORY?

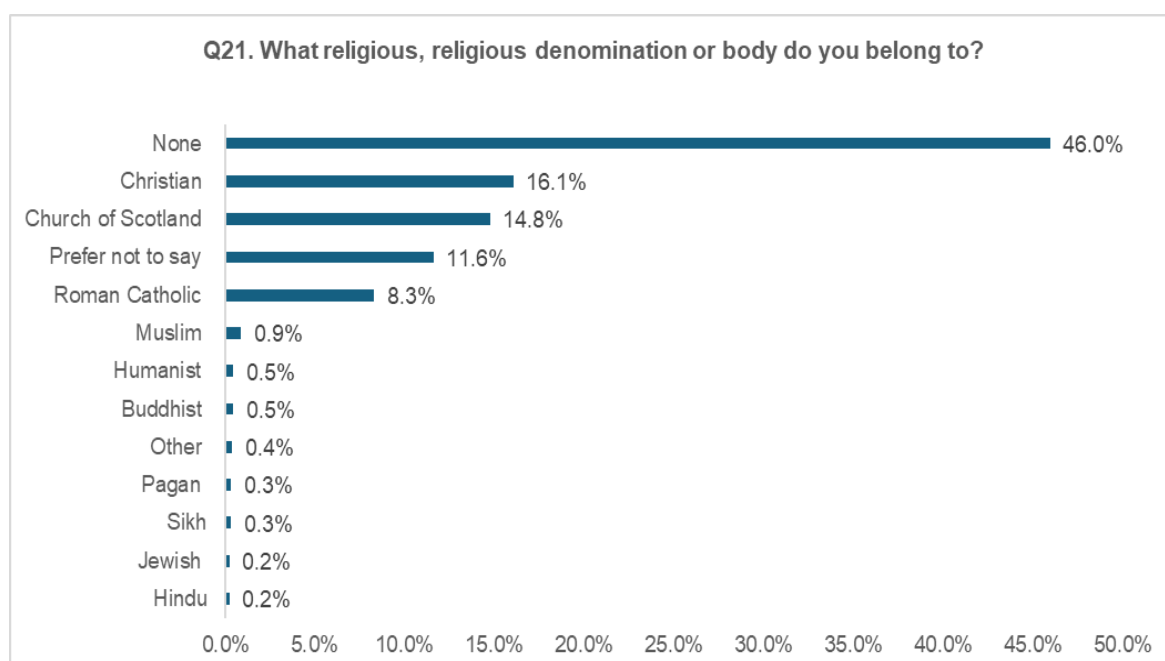
Most respondents (91%) stated that they did not consider themselves to be trans or have a trans history and 9% of respondents stated that they would prefer not to say when asked this question.



Base: 1270

RELIGION

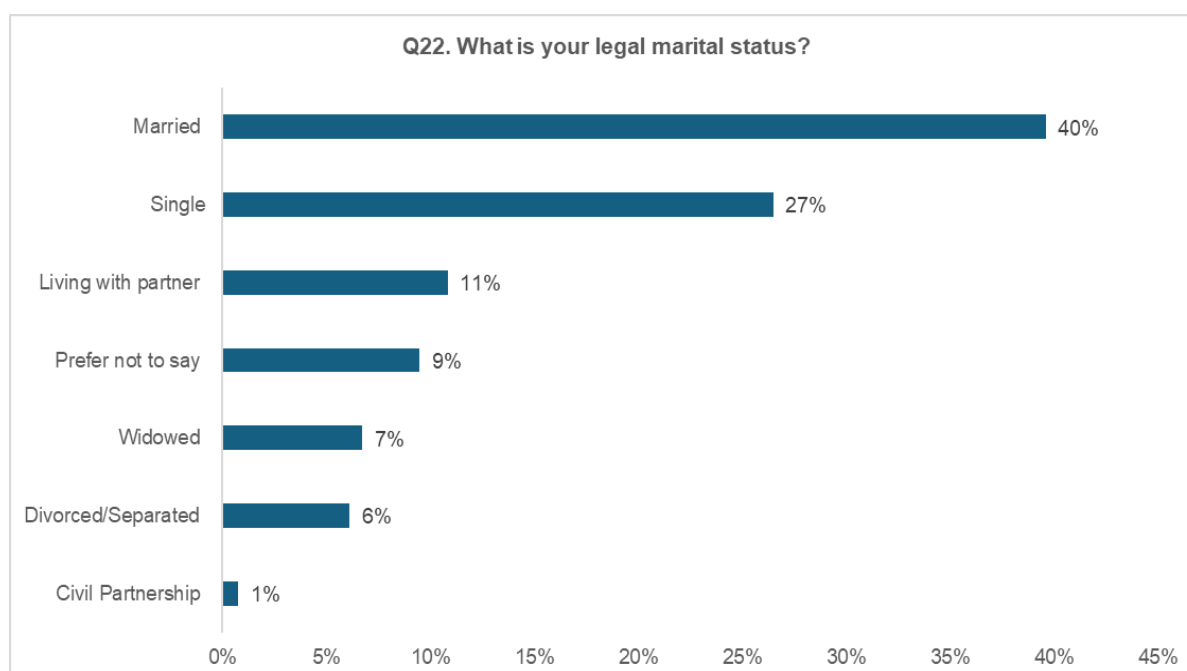
When asked to state their religion, religious denomination or body that they belong to 46% stated none. Sixteen per cent of respondents stated Christian, 15% stated Church of Scotland, 12% stated that they would prefer not to say and 8% stated Roman Catholic. Small proportions of respondents stated Muslim (1%), Humanist (1%), Buddhist (1%), Other (0.4%), Pagan (0.3%), Sikh (0.3%), Jewish (0.2%) or Hindu (0.2%).



Base: 1281

LEGAL MARITAL STATUS

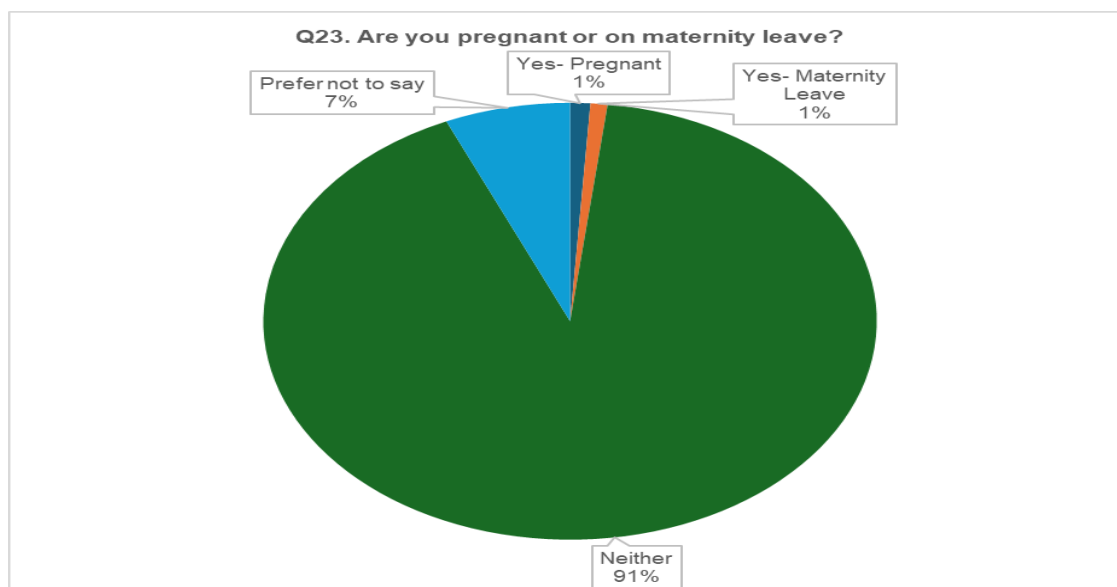
When asked about their legal marital status 40% of respondents stated that they were married, 27% stated that they were single and 11% stated living with a partner. Nine per cent of respondents stated that they would prefer not to say, 7% were widowed, 6% were divorced/separated and 1% of respondents were in a civil partnership.



Base: 1298

PREGNANCY OR MATERNITY LEAVE

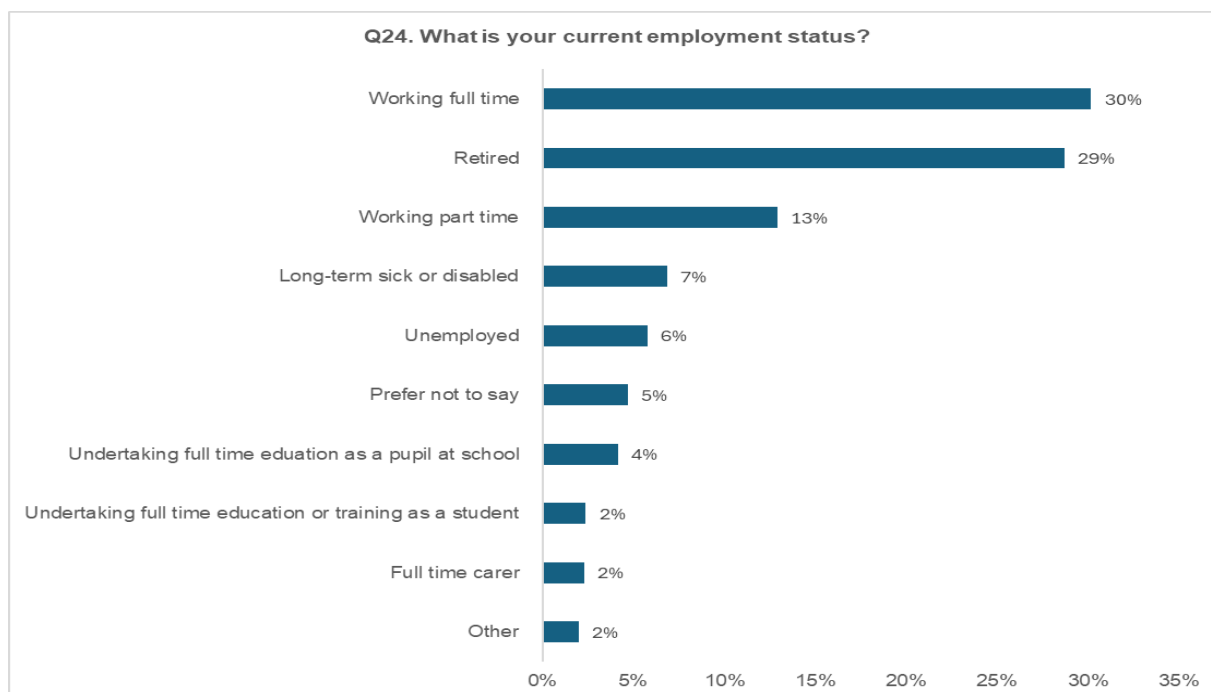
Most respondents (91%) stated that they were neither pregnant or on maternity leave. One percent of respondents stated that they were pregnant and 1% stated that they were on maternity leave. Seven per cent of respondent stated they would prefer not to say.



Base: 1226

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS

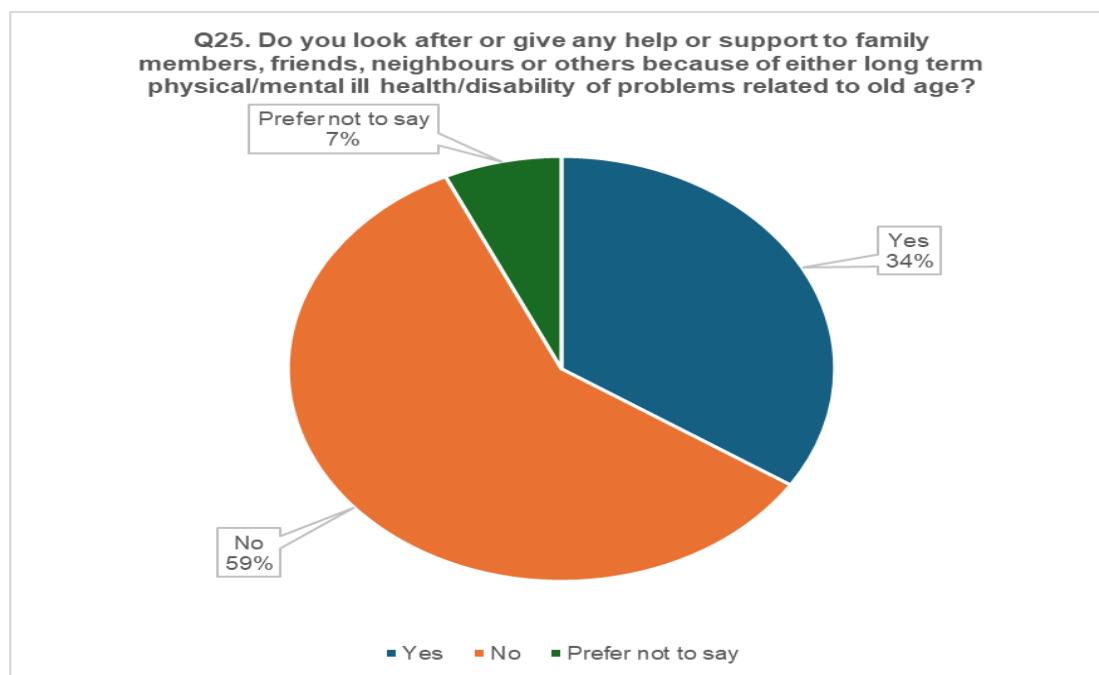
When asked about their current employment status 30% of respondents stated that they work full time, this was followed by 29% of respondents who stated retired and 13% of respondents who stated working part time. Seven per cent of respondents stated that they were long term sick or disabled, 6% stated unemployed and 5% stated that they would prefer not to say. Four per cent of respondents stated that they were undertaking full time education as a pupil at school and 2% was stated for each of the following categories, undertaking full time education or training as a student, full time carer and other.



Base: 1299

**Do you look after or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either long-term physical/mental ill-health/disability or problems related to old age?
– Do not count anything that you do as part of paid employment**

Most respondents (59%) stated that they did not look after or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either long-term physical/mental ill-health/disability or problems related to old age. Thirty four per cent of respondents stated that they did do this and 7% stated that they would prefer not to say when asked this question.



Base:1292

