







2011 Council Survey of Residents

Activities, Facilities, Transport, Communication and Consultation

Report 1129698

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Results

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Introduction, Objectives and Methodology

- Every year the Nelson City Council commissions a residents survey to seek feedback on their services and facilities as well as other information to assist them with planning, management and accountability. This year a comprehensive survey covered the significant Activity Areas for Council and measured the level of satisfaction with Council performance in these specific areas. The survey also covered resident satisfaction with selected facilities, transport, communication and consultation, and Council's overall performance.
- This information helps in the preparation of long term and annual plans, policies and asset management plans and provides feedback for annual reports.
- The information from the study will be used by Nelson City Council for future planning across a number of service areas.
- The primary objectives of this survey were to:
 - Identify the level of satisfaction in each of the key Council Activities, Selected Facilities and Transport.
 - Determine the levels of satisfaction with Council Communication, Consultation and Overall Performance.
- The study consisted of 400 telephone interviews with residents in the Nelson City Council area.
 - The overall results have a margin of error of +/-4.90% at a 95% confidence level.
- Quotas were enforced according to age and gender, to ensure that a proportionate representative sample of Nelson City's population was obtained. The data was re-weighted to account for slight variances in the achieved quotas.
- Interviewing took place between Wednesday May 11th and Tuesday May 31st 2011.







Conclusions

- The Council **activities** which Nelson residents are most satisfied with are Parks and Open Spaces, Community Facilities, Recreation and Leisure and Water Supply. For each of these areas, at least seven in every ten residents are either *Very satisfied* or *Satisfied*, and as there is clear 'daylight' between this group of activities and the other aspects which were examined, these are seen to be the best performing areas.
- Although just under one-half of residents did not express dissatisfaction with any of the activities examined, one area does stand out from the rest in terms of attracting high levels of dissatisfaction Transport. When examined in more detail, it is Public Transport that is seen to be the source of most dissatisfaction in particular *Frequency*.
- In terms of specific **facilities** examined, satisfaction is highest for Public Libraries, whilst Swimming Pools attract negligible dissatisfaction.
- However Public Toilets (*Number* and *Quality*) register lower levels of satisfaction as well as noticeably higher dissatisfaction indicating a possible area of focus.

Maintenance

Parks and Open Spaces, Community Facilities, Recreation and Leisure, Water Supply, Public Libraries, Swimming Pools.

Improvement

Public Transport, Public Toilets.







Summary (I)

Satisfaction with Council Activities:

- Satisfaction is highest for Parks and Open Spaces (83%) and Community Facilities (73%), both of which have recorded large increases in satisfaction (8 percentage points and 11 percentage points respectively) since the 2010 survey.
- Regulatory Compliance (30%), Transport (39%) and Social Development (28%) recorded the lowest satisfaction ratings.
- The proportion of respondents *Satisfied* or *Very satisfied* with Transport has significantly increased (17 percentage points) since the 2010 survey. Transport however remains the area that respondents are most dissatisfied about (27%), although levels of dissatisfaction are decreasing.
- Dissatisfaction with the Public Transport (bus) network is the main reason stated for dissatisfaction with Transport services in Nelson.
- The Length of time and the Cost of obtaining consents are the main reasons given for dissatisfaction with Regulatory Compliance. The Cost of water and Taste are the main reasons given for dissatisfaction with water. The Smell from the Nelson North Sewage Ponds is an issue stated by those dissatisfied with Wastewater.
- Recycling is perceived as Difficult and Expensive by those who are dissatisfied with Solid Waste Management.
- Lack of promotion of the Nelson region is the main reason stated for dissatisfaction with Economic and Tourism Support.
- Respondents identified a variety of reasons for their dissatisfaction with other Council Activities.







Summary (II)

Council Facilities:

- The majority of respondents (85%) are Satisfied with the Public Library Service and Swimming Pools. Satisfaction is low for the Number of Public Toilets (18%) and the Quality of Public Toilets (17%) in Nelson.
- More than four out of every five respondents (85%) stated they were either Very satisfied or Satisfied with the Public Library service.
- More than one-half of respondents (57%) are Satisfied with Swimming Pools. The main reasons for dissatisfaction amongst respondents is due to the Swimming Pools being in need of an Upgrade and the Cost.
- Slightly more than one-third of respondents (35%) are Satisfied with the Quality of Public Toilets. The reasons for dissatisfaction were
 mainly because they are Unclean and Lacking in Maintenance.
- Just under one-fifth (18%) of respondents were dissatisfied with the Number of Public Toilets in Nelson.

Transport:

- Driving a private vehicle remains the main mode of Transport when travelling to work (67%).
- Satisfaction is highest in regard to Off-road cycle ways (70%) and Walkways linking roads or suburbs (65%). Large proportions of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with Public Transport (27%) and moderate proportions stated dissatisfaction with Roads / Streets (15%).
- Public Transport, Roads / Streets and Footpaths have recorded decreases in dissatisfaction from 2010 by 14, 3 and 5 percentage points respectively.
- The proportion of respondents stating it is *Harder to park* in the Central City increased slightly for the first time since the question was first asked in 2006 by 5 percentage points from 2010, although it is still a smaller proportion than in 2009 and 2006.
- Almost half of respondents (45%) cycle in Nelson. Almost three-quarters (74%) of these respondents stated they are Satisfied with the experience of Cycling on roads or Cycle ways in Nelson. This represents a slight increase from the 2010 results by 11 percentage points.
- Respondents dissatisfied with the Cycling experience in Nelson were mainly concerned about Safety Issues with Motorists also using the road.
- Satisfaction with the Safety for Motorists, Pedestrians and Cyclists in Nelson are similar to the 2010 results with recordings of (1 percentage point increase, 1 percentage point decrease, and no change, respectively)







Summary (III)

Communication and Consultation:

- Slightly more than one-half of respondents (52%) are Very satisfied or Satisfied with opportunities to take part in Decision-making. The main reason given for dissatisfaction is that The Council doesn't listen (24%).
- Almost two in every five respondents (39%) would prefer to provide Feedback to Council via the internet. Additionally, 19% of respondents would like to have maximum participation in Council decisions.
- Almost seven in every ten respondents (69%) stated the amount of Information provided by the Council is enough / about right. More than a
 third (37%) Disagree or Strongly disagree that their Views and Opinions can Influence the Decisions of the Council.
- Live Nelson was the main source of Council Information for almost half of respondents (47%). The Council website (36%), Live Nelson (52%) and Community newspapers (45%) were the most *trusted* Sources of Information.
- More than two-thirds of respondents (67%) are *regular readers* of Live Nelson. Almost a quarter of those (11%) who don't currently read it stated that *nothing* would persuade them to read it more often (23%).
- Almost three-quarters of respondents (74%) stated that Live Nelson was Useful or Very useful in keeping them informed about Council News and Activities.
- Half of respondents had never visited the Council website (50%). Of those who had visited the site, 80% of respondents found it Useful or Very useful.
- More than half of the respondents (58%) who had visited the Council website were aware they could use the website to pay rates or water bills, but only 15% of respondents had used it for this purpose.
- More than three-quarters of respondents (76%) who had visited the Council website were aware they could use the website to pay their consent account, but those of the respondents who had used it for this purpose was minimal (2%).
- 70% of respondents who had visited the Council website were *not aware* they could use the website to *read the latest issue* of Live Nelson and less than one in ten (9%) had used it for this purpose.
- Half of respondents (50%) who had visited the Council website were *aware* they could use the website to *View the Resource Management Plan* and slightly more than one-quarter of respondents (26%) had used it for this purpose.







Summary (IV)

Overall Performance:

- Slightly more than one-half of respondents (51%) are Satisfied with the Councils Overall Performance. This outlines an increase over the
 results of 2010 by 6 percentage points.
- The Council are doing a Good job / Running things well (27%) and that Council Staff are Good / and helpful (25%) are the main reasons for satisfaction amongst respondents.
- Issues with Monetary Mismanagement (25%) and Lack of Communication with the public (20%) are the main reasons for dissatisfaction with the Council's Overall Performance.
- Almost one-quarter of respondents (22%) thought the Council were doing a *better* job of running things compared with last year.

Value for Money:

- 43% of respondents Agreed or Strongly agreed that Nelson City Council Services and Facilities are good Value for Money. This indicates an increase over the results of 2010 by 7 percentage points.
- The Council are doing a Good job and providing Good Facilities are the main reasons for satisfaction with the Value for Money offered by the Council.
- Disagreement with how the Council spends Money as well as expensive rates (water etc.) are the main reasons for dissatisfaction with the Value for Money offered by Council.







1. Satisfaction with Council Activities



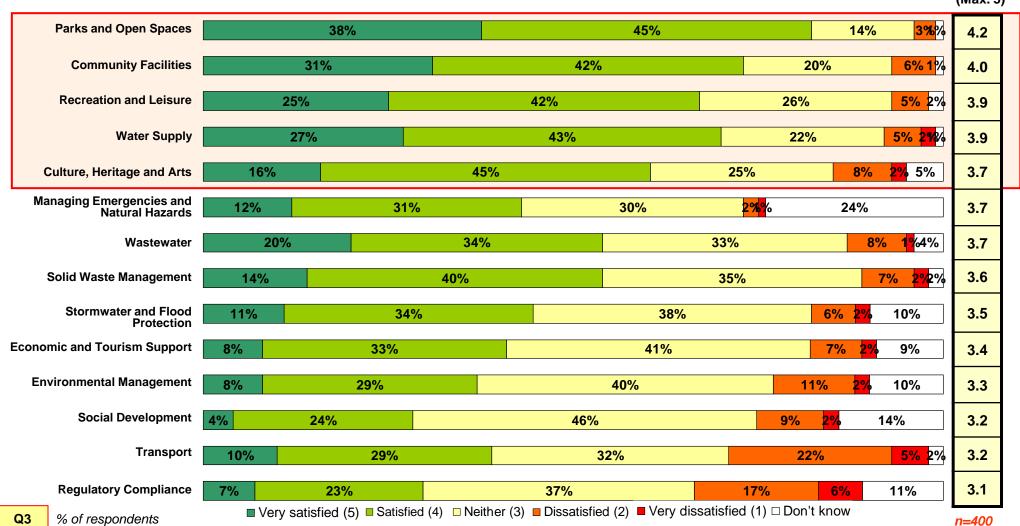




In order of mean rating

Satisfaction

Page 10
Mean Rating
(Max. 5)





Q3





Page 11

Dashboard

	Satisfaction Rank (based on mean rating)	Satisfaction % (% rating 4-5)
Parks and Open Spaces	1st	82%
Community Facilities	2nd	73%
Recreation and Leisure	3rd	68%
Water Supply	4th	70%
Culture, Heritage and Arts	5th	61%
Managing Emergencies and Natural Hazards	6th	43%
Wastewater	7th	54%
Solid Waste Management	8th	54%
Stormwater and Flood Protection	9th	45%
Economic and Tourism Support	10th	41%
Environmental Management	11th	37%
Social Development	12th	28%
Transport	13th	40%
Regulatory Compliance	14th	30%

% of respondents

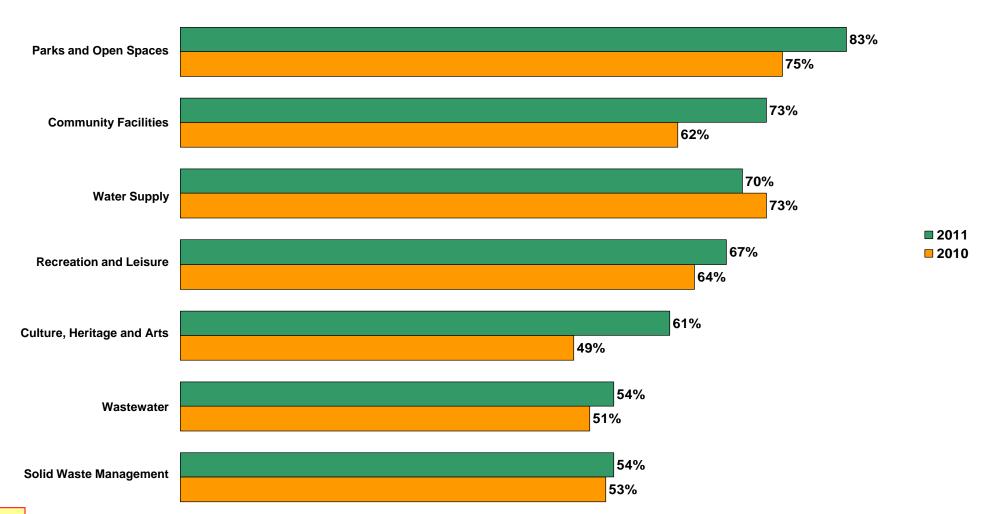






Satisfaction

Proportion Satisfied or Very satisfied (I)



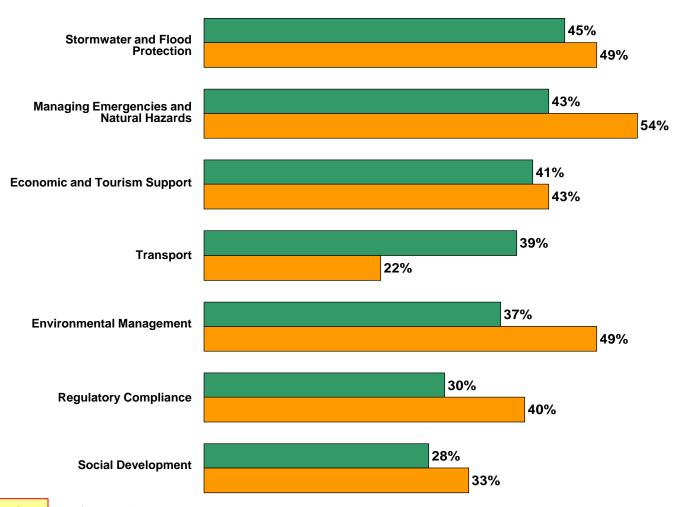






Satisfaction

Proportion Satisfied or Very satisfied (II)



Q3 % of respondents

n=400

2011

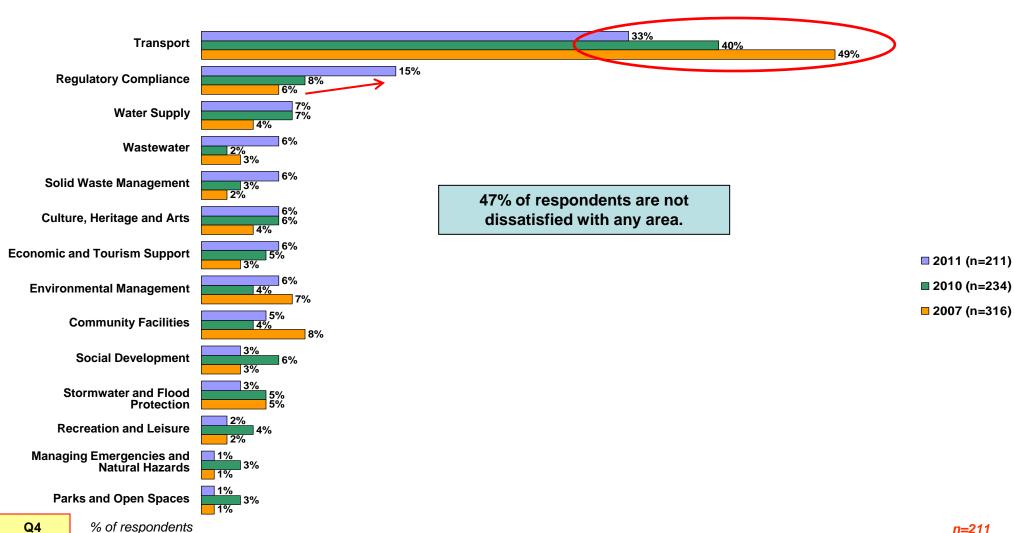
2010







Areas Most Dissatisfied About



n=211







2. Council Facilities

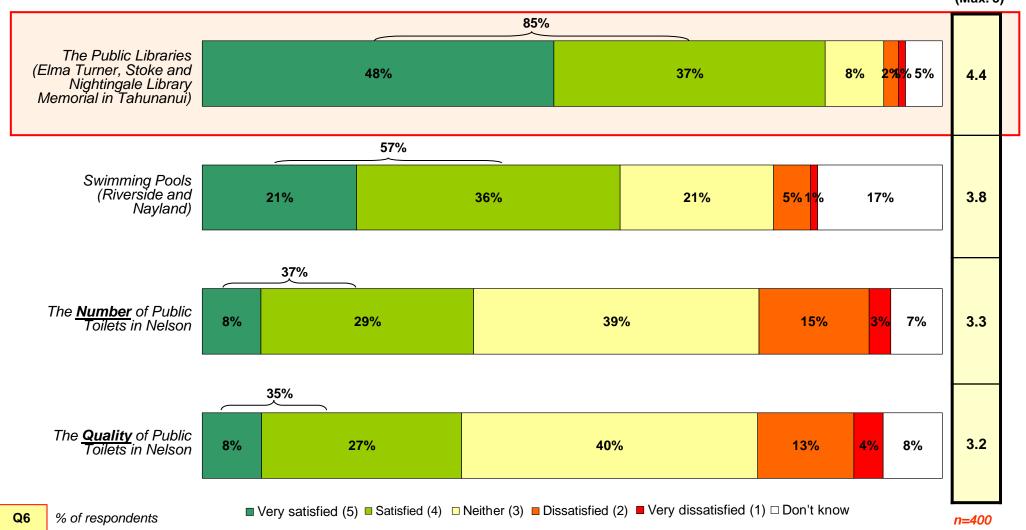






Satisfaction with Council Facilities (I)

Page 16
Mean Rating
(Max. 5)

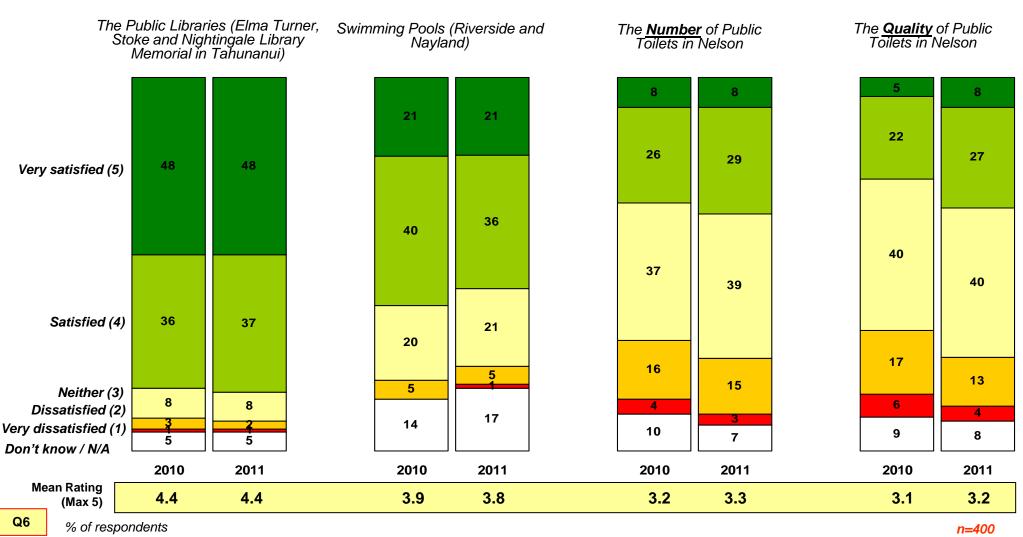








Satisfaction with Council Facilities (II)



There were minor changes in satisfaction levels with Council facilities from 2010 to 2011 by negative 1 and negative 4 percentage points, and an increase of 5 and 5 percentage points respectively.

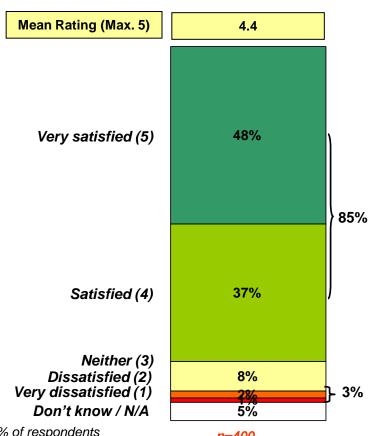






The Public Library Service

How satisfied are you with the libraries (Elma Turner, Stoke and Nightingale Library Memorial in Tahunanui)?



Q6A

% of respondents

n=400



Q6B

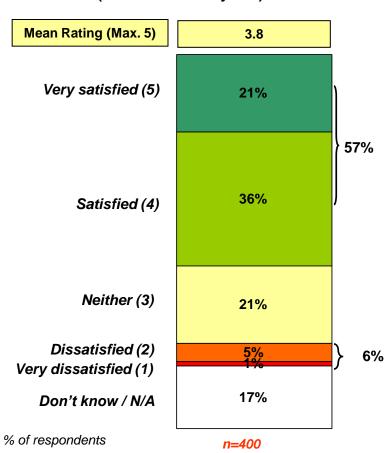




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Swimming Pools

How satisfied are you with Swimming Pools (Riverside and Nayland)?



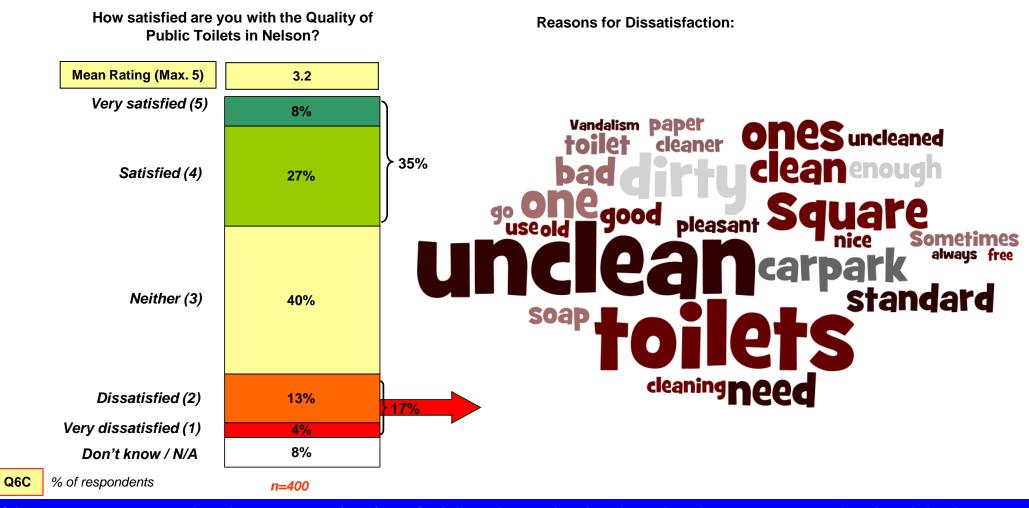
More than half of respondents (57%) are *Satisfied* with Swimming Pools. The main reasons for dissatisfaction amongst respondents is due to the Pools being in need of an *Upgrade* and the *Cost*.







The **Quality** of Public Toilets



Slightly more than one-third of respondents (35%) are *Satisfied* with the Quality of Public Toilets. The reasons for dissatisfaction were mainly because they are *Unclean* and *Lacking in Maintenance*.



Q6D

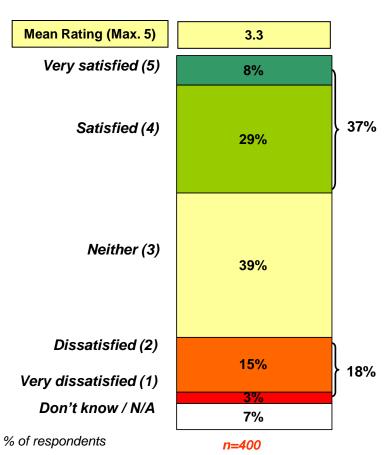




Page 21

The **Number** of Public Toilets

How satisfied are you with the Number of Public Toilets in Nelson?



Just under one-fifth of respondents (18%) are Dissatisfied with the Number of Public Toilets in Nelson.









3. Transport



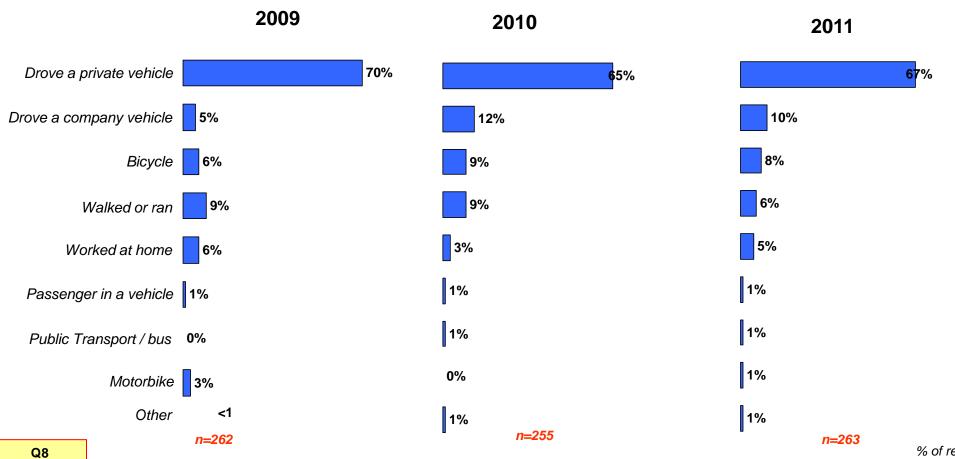






Travel to Work (I)

On your most recent trip to work, what was the one main way you travelled to work?



% of respondents

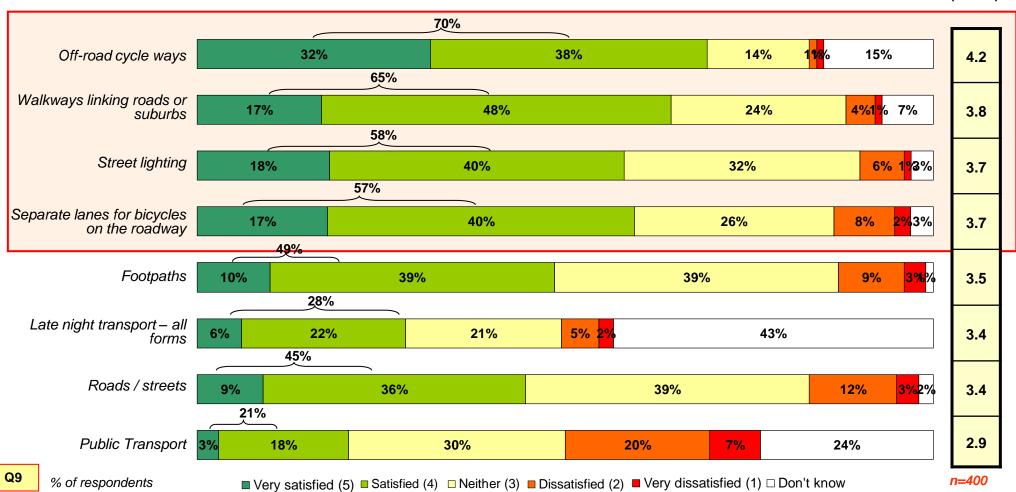






Satisfaction with the Transport Network

Mean Rating (Max. 5)



Satisfaction is highest in regards to Off-road cycle ways (70%) and Walkways linking roads or suburbs (65%). Large proportions of respondents identified dissatisfaction with Public Transport (27%) and moderate proportions stated dissatisfaction with Roads / streets (15%).



Q9

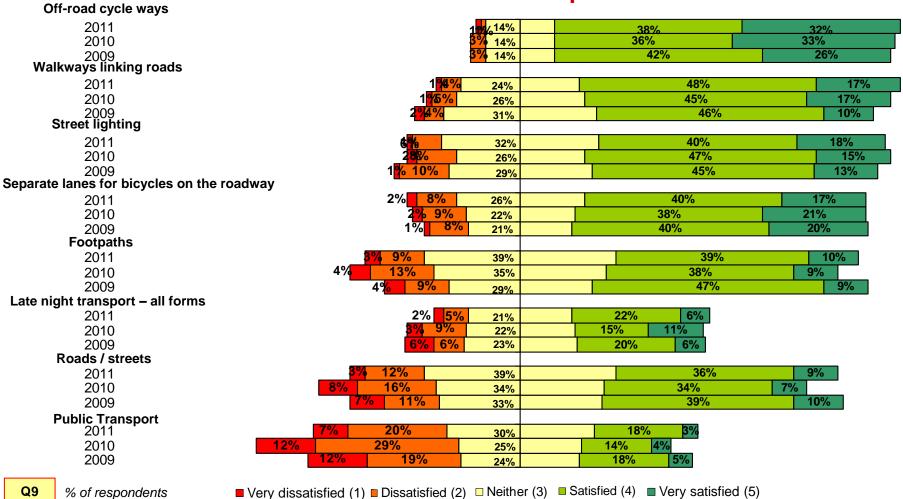
% of respondents





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COMPARISON OVER TIME: Satisfaction with Transport Network



n=400







Reason for Dissatisfaction (I)

% of respondents

= small base size

Roads and streets (n=57)

	2009	2010	2011
Roads in poor condition	42%	60%	59%
Too narrow	12%	11%	22%
Roads too congested	26%	16%	17%
Too dangerous	12%	9%	16%
Other	49%	20%	43%

Footpaths (n=47)

	2009	2010	2011
Footpaths in poor condition	70%	72%	78%
Many areas are without footpaths	34%	31%	31%
Other	23%	17%	22%

On road cycle lanes (n=39)

	2009	2010	2011
Not safe	40%	46%	57%
Need more cycle lanes	34%	25%	45%
Not there when you need them	12%	16%	17%
Not used enough	3%	9%	12%
Shouldn't have cycle lanes	6%	7%	6%
Cycle lanes are a waste of money	9%	7%	3%
Broken glass	-	6%	2%
Other	16%	39%	44%

Off road cycle ways (n=6) 1

	2009	2010	2011
Need more cycle ways	58%	61%	73%
Shouldn't have cycle ways	8%	6%	13%
Broken glass	-	6%	-
Cycle lanes are a waste of money	8%	-	-
Not used enough	21%	-	-
Other	21%	47%	40%

Q9A-D

Multiple responses allowed







Q9E-H

Reasons for Dissatisfaction (II)



= small base size

Public Transport (n=105)

	2009	2010	2011
Public Transport not frequent enough	73%	70%	77%
Public Transport irregular	46%	45%	48%
Increase coverage of Public Transport	49%	54%	44%
Too expensive / should be cheaper	17%	15%	22%
Doesn't run at night or weekends	7%	16%	17%
Other	2%	13%	17%

Street lighting (n=28) ______

	2009	2010	2011
Need more lighting	80%	80%	85%
Too much in some places, too little in others	29%	43%	27%
Other	5%	3%	7%

Late night transport (n=29) 🛕

	2009	2010	2011
Timing – not frequent enough	46%	42%	72%
Route very limited (that is, between Nelson- Richmond only)	49%	26%	29%
Doesn't run every night	10%	17%	22%
Start and finish times too late / early	9%	15%	21%
Doesn't go where I need it to	29%	22%	17%
Too expensive / should be cheaper	14%	12%	9%
Other	12%	2%	37%

Walkways (n=18) 🛕



	2009	2010	2011
Poor / inadequate lighting	62%	41%	33%
Need more	37%	31%	27%
Unsafe	-	25%	24%
Poor condition	-	14%	20%
Not where I need them	4%	33%	12%
Vandalism	-	4%	5%
Other	15%	3%	20%

Multiple responses allowed

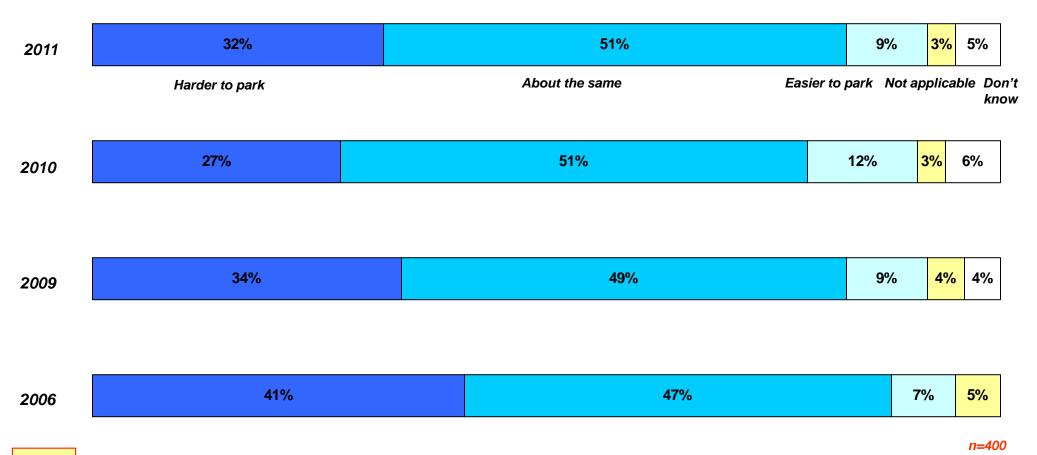
% of respondents







COMPARISON OVER TIME:Parking in the Central City



Q10

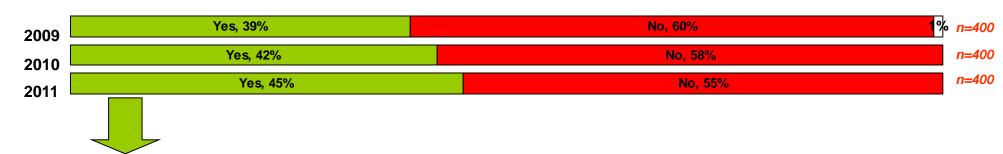
% of respondents



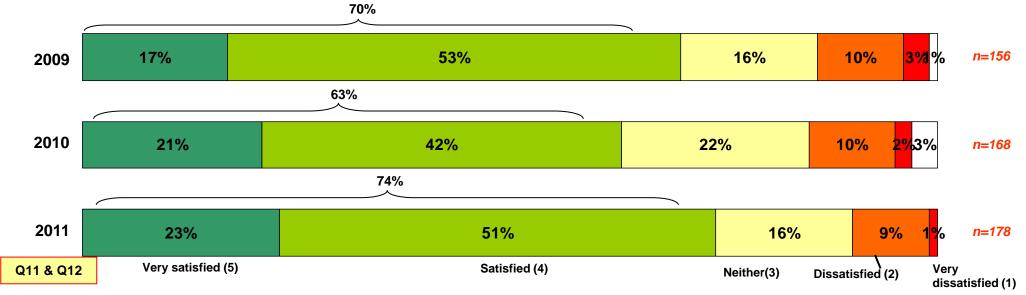








How satisfied are you with the overall experience of cycling on roads or cycle ways in Nelson?



Almost half of respondents (45%) *cycle* in Nelson. Almost three-quarters of these respondents (74%) stated they are *satisfied* with the experience of cycling on *roads* or *cycle ways* in Nelson. This represents an increase from the 2010 results by 3 and 11 percentage points respectively.

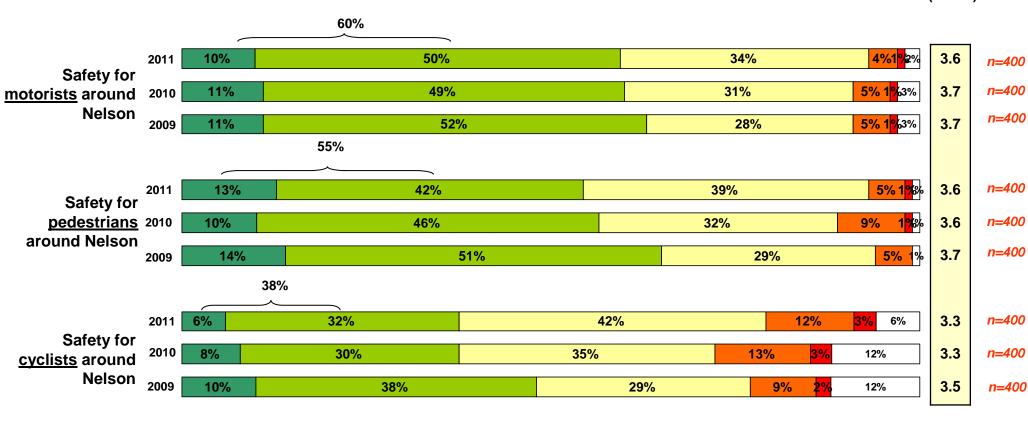








Mean Rating (Max. 5)



Q14

■ Very satisfied (5)

% of respondents

■ Very dissatisfied (1)

□ Neither (3)

Dissatisfied (2)

■ Satisfied (4)





4. Communication and Consultation

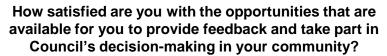




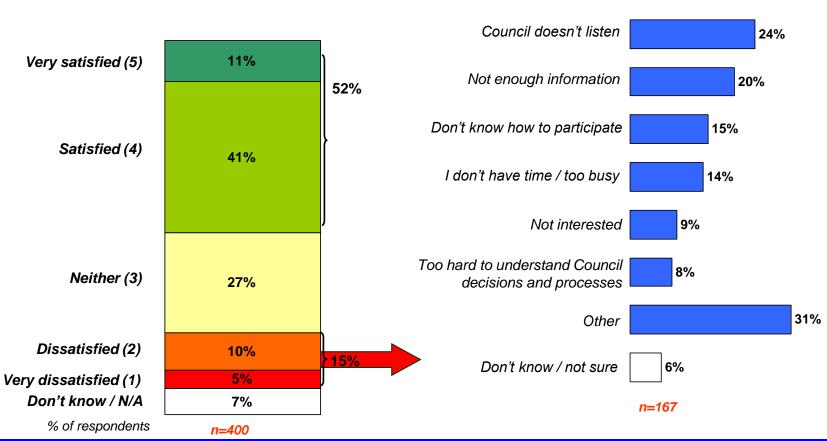


Opportunities to Take Part in Decision-Making

Q15 & Q15A



Reasons for Dissatisfaction



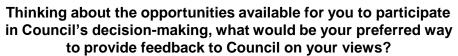




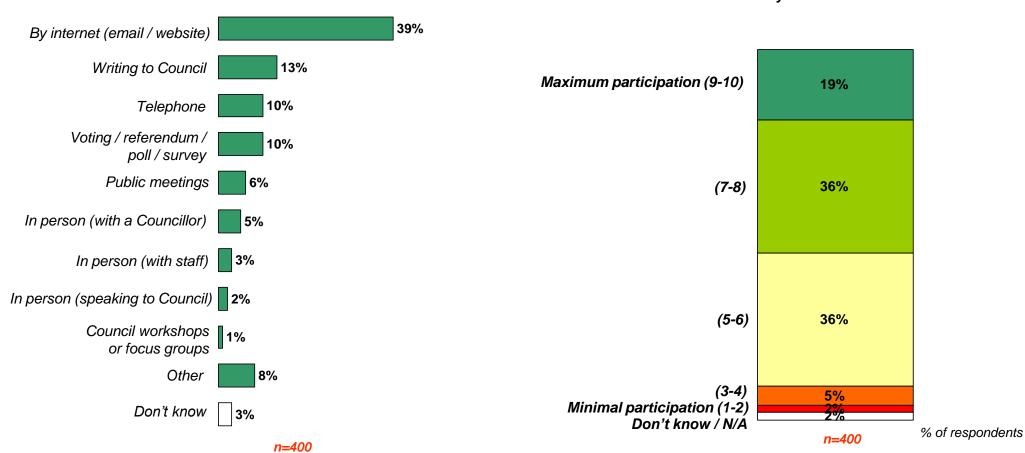


Q16 & Q17

Feedback to Council



To what extent would you like to see the community involved in decisions being made by the Council?



Almost two in every five of respondents (39%) would prefer to provide feedback to Council via the *internet*. Slightly less than one-fifth of respondents (19%) would like to have *Maximum Participation* in Council decisions.





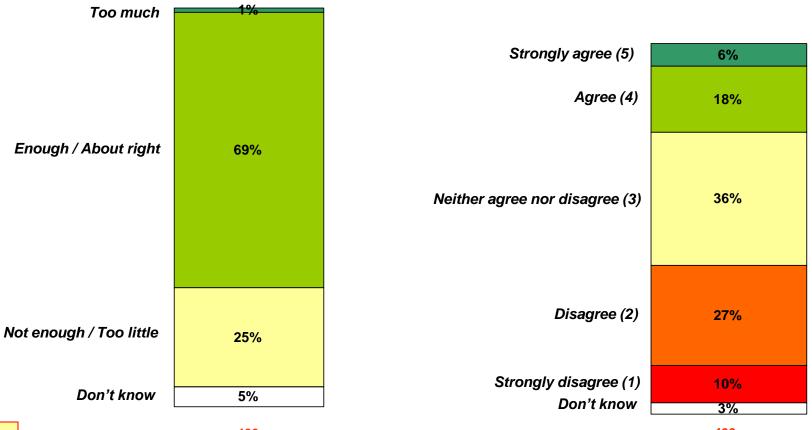


% of respondents

Public Consultation

Would you say that the AMOUNT of information Council provides to the community is...?

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "MY VIEWS AND OPINIONS CAN INFLUENCE THE DECISIONS OF THE NELSON CITY COUNCIL"?







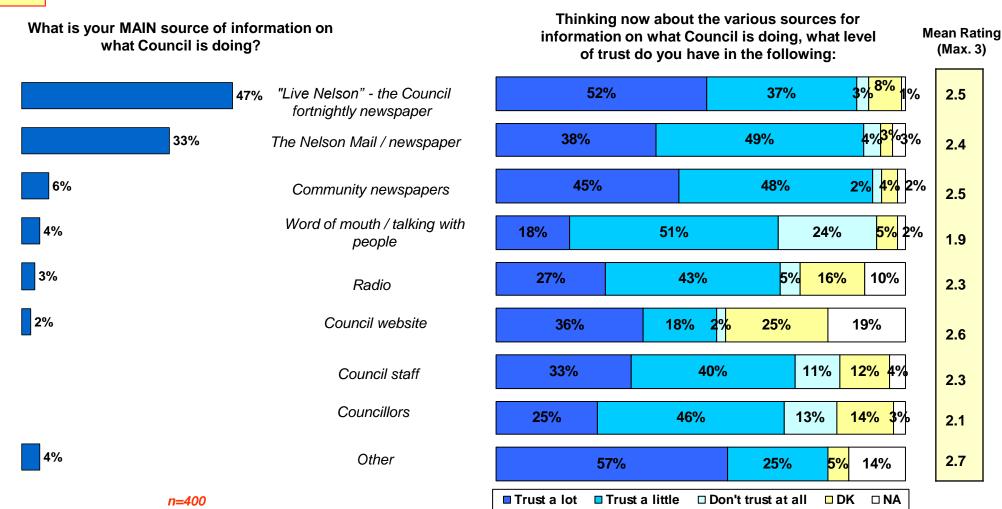


% of respondents

Sources of Information

Q20

Q21



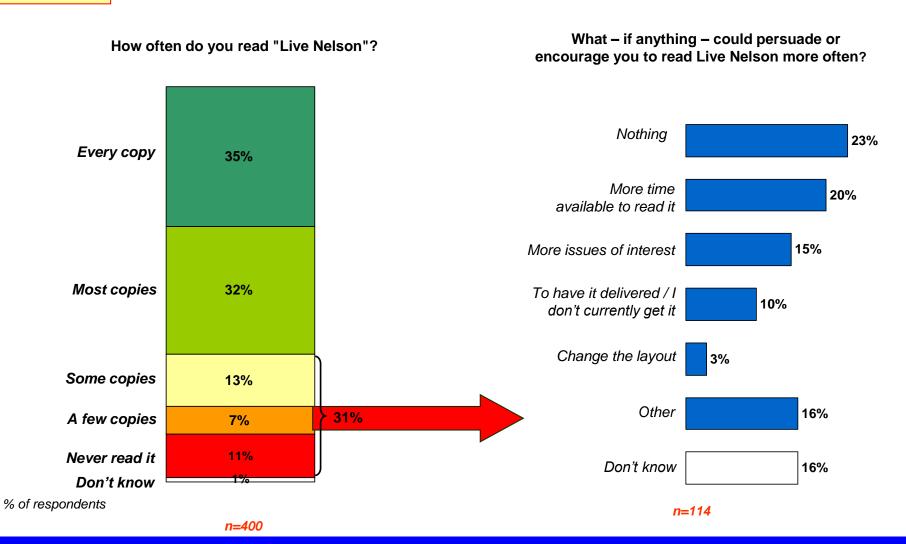






Q22 & Q23

Live Nelson (I)



More than two-thirds of respondents (67%) are *Regular Readers* of Live Nelson. Almost a quarter (23%) of those who don't currently read it stated that *nothing* would persuade them to read it more often.



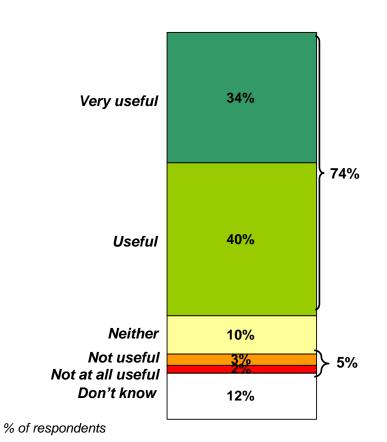




Q24 & Q24A

Live Nelson (IV)

How useful would you say "Live Nelson" is in terms of keeping you informed about Council news and Activities?



Why do you say that? (Very useful or Useful)

- It keeps me up to date. (3)
- It's very informative. (2)
- They seem to cover things well, except for financial things.
- It gives some information on what's coming up, events and feedback on events that have been, and information on submissions.
- It gives you an overview of what is happening.
- It's the only thing we get with information on the Council.
- It has bits and pieces that the community needs to be aware of.
- It keeps me up to date on what's going on.
- The Council needs to do a better job of what they are getting out to people. They need to share their good news better.
- It covers a lot of topics.
- It covers and updates Activities I wouldn't know about otherwise. It also gives background on why they do certain things which is important.
- They have festival information which is interesting.
- I find it informative; it's quite detailed and keeps me up to speed.
- It has community events and we know what's coming up.
- It has good information but some is a whitewash in the paper's favour.
- It's good for seeing what Activities are coming up and to keep tabs on what they are up to.
- It's full of information that's not found anywhere else.
- It gives lots of interesting information.
- It gives me information about the Council at one source.
- It gives me information about what is going on.
- It gives snippets of what the Council are doing in Nelson. What they are working on and where they're headed.
- It gives you an insight on expenditure and information on rates and how the costs will increase.

n=400

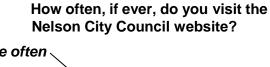


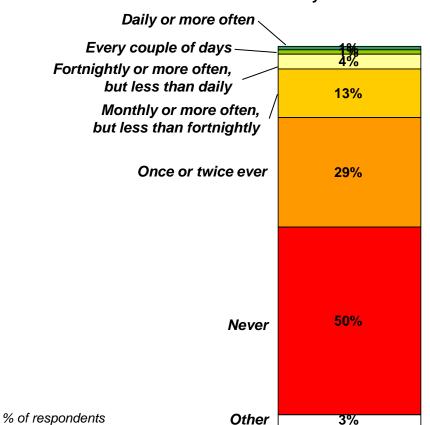




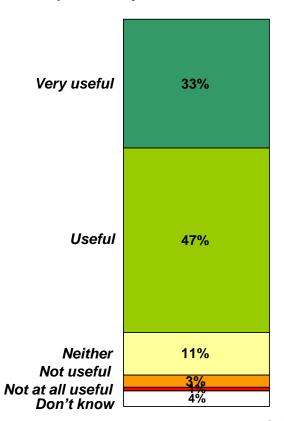
Q25 & Q26

Council Website (I)





How useful would you say the information, news and services provided by the Council website are?



n=202

Only asked of people who have visited the website

n=400



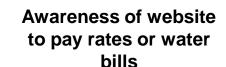


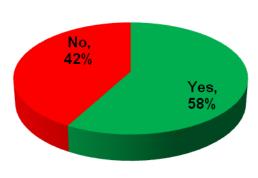


% of respondents

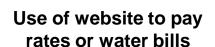
Council Website (V) Pay Rates or Water Bills

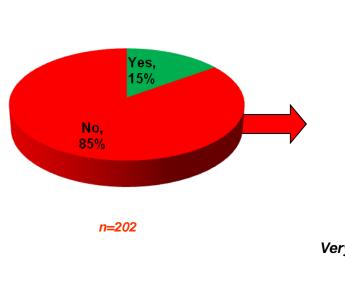
Only asked of people who have visited the website



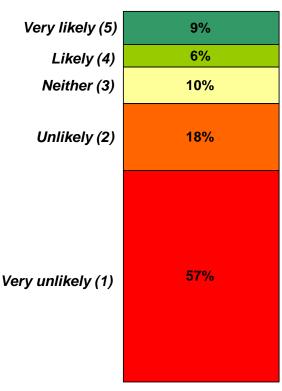


n=202





Likely use of website to pay rates or water bills



Q28A, Q29A & Q30A

n=174



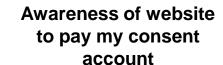


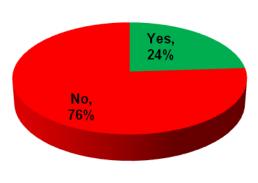


% of respondents

Council Website (VI) Pay my Consent Account

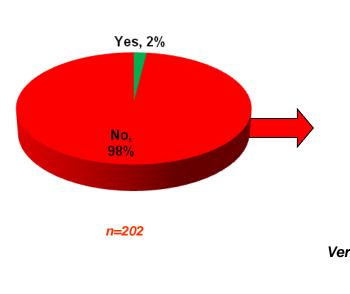
Only asked of people who have visited the website



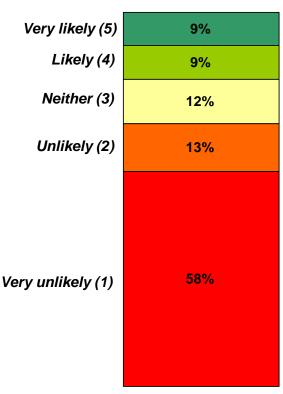


n=202





Likely use of website to pay my consent account



n=197

Q28B, Q29B & Q30B





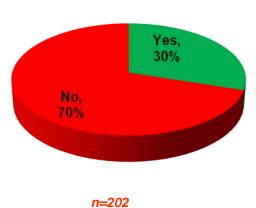


% of respondents

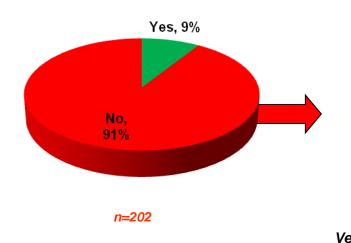
Council Website (VII) Read the Latest Issue of Live Nelson

Only asked of people who have visited the website

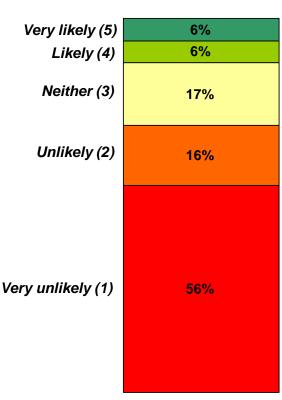
Awareness of website to read the latest issue of Live Nelson



Use of website to read the latest issue of Live Nelson



Likely use of website to read the latest issue of Live Nelson



n=185

Q28C, Q29C & Q30C





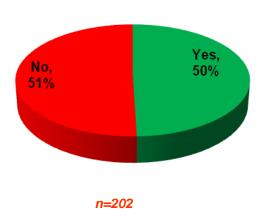


% of respondents

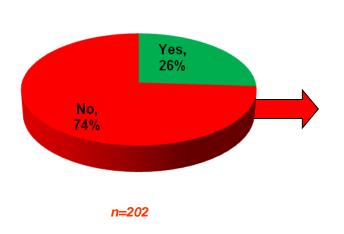
Council Website (VIII) View the Resource Management Plan

Only asked of people who have visited the website

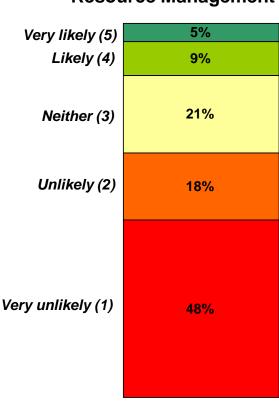
Awareness of website to view the Resource Management Plan







Likely use of website to view the Resource Management Plan



n=151

Q28D, Q29D & Q30D





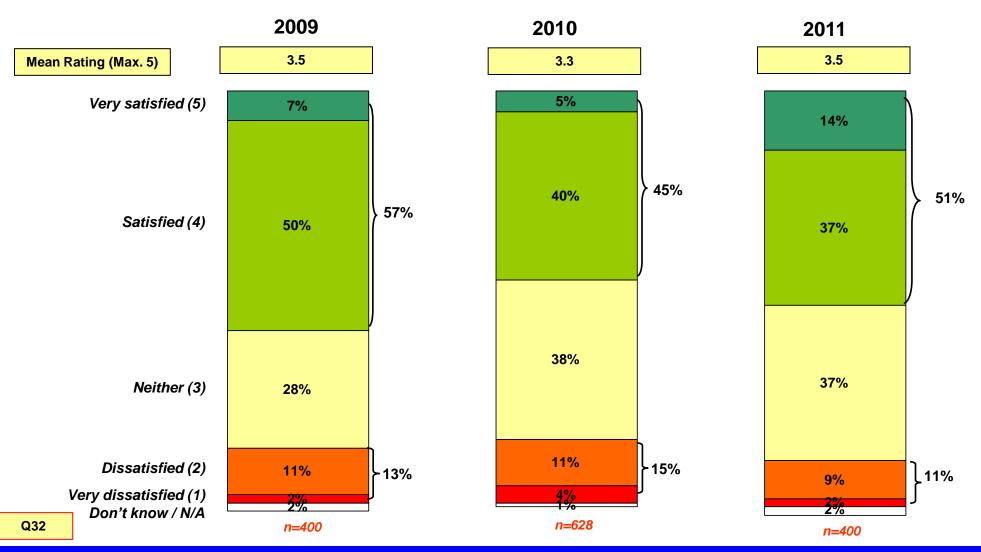
5. Overall Performance

















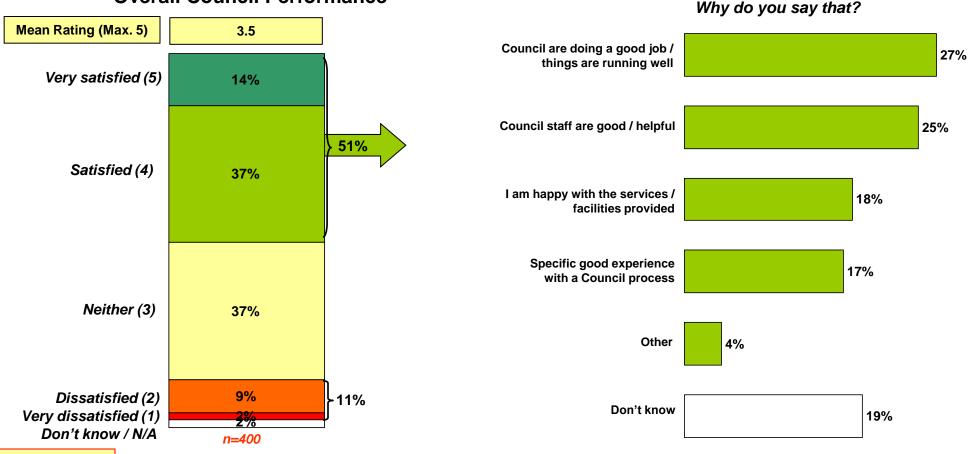
% of respondents

Q32 & Q32C

Reasons for Satisfaction

(Very satisfied / Satisfied)





Multiple responses allowed



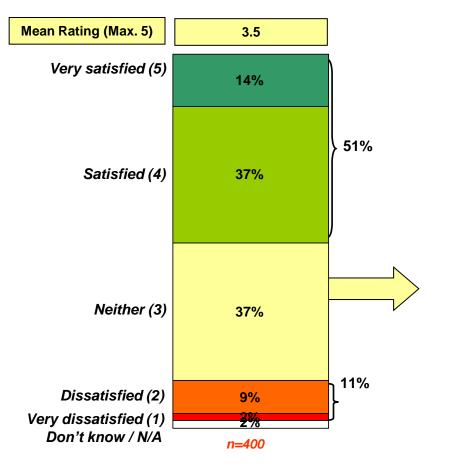




% of respondents

Q32 & Q32B

Overall Council Performance



Reasons

(Neither I)

- I haven't had much to do with them. (29)
- I'm a bit worried about the new Mayor's priorities. That is, beautifying Nelson for the World Cup when other areas of more long term value, aren't being looked at so closely. like infrastructure and Council housing for low income people.
- There are always things that can be improved on.
- The transport system is stagnant. We need a bus lane. There is too much money spent on recreation and festivities. Young people don't get much.
- At the end of the day, they don't listen, and so much of what they do is just a money making exercise.
- There are building consent delays. There are World Cup hassles in our area at present. Cycle ways are good and well maintained.
- The building consent process was rather drawn out.
- My rates are too high.
- There have been changes of parking areas and rates. The recycling is good.
- The outcome of compliance in the environmental court was not satisfactory.
- I have concern about the conference art centre and the support of Council on extra grand schemes.
- The consent process is over the top, there is lots of red tape.
- There is a continual increase in rates, especially for a single person.
- The Council could work more towards limiting environmental damage, helping the farmers more.
- The Council generally does a good job but sometimes they don't listen to the public.
- The Council is not perfect, but always try to do their best.
- There is debate over the Performing Arts Centre.
- I'm not interested that much.
- They drag their heels on some of the important things and we have been talking about the Millennium Centre since the 1990's and nothing has been done; no bricks or mortar but lots of money spent.
- Each time I've been into the Council offices they've been quite helpful. I feel like I already pay huge rates but I still have to pay for parking.





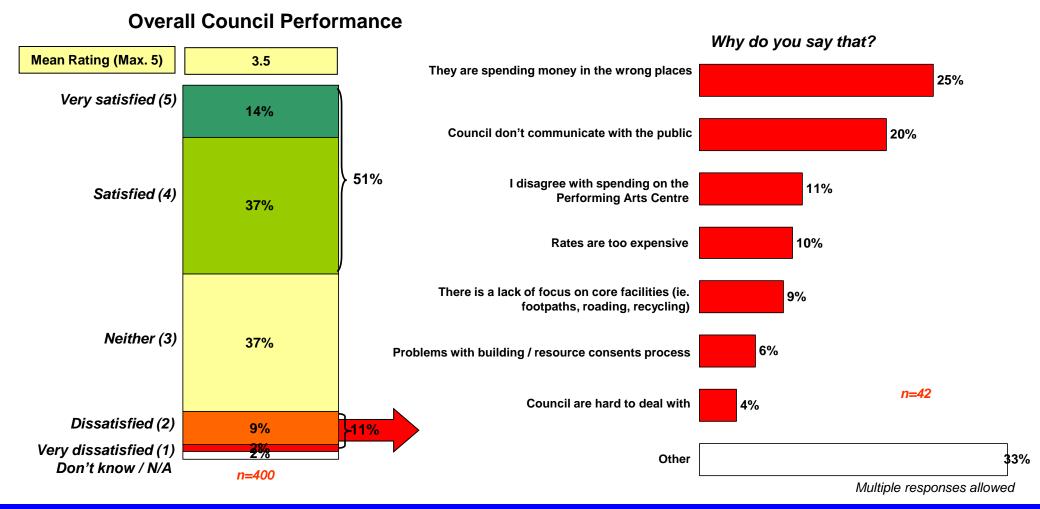


Q32 & Q32A

Reasons for Dissatisfaction

% of respondents

(Very dissatisfied / Dissatisfied)





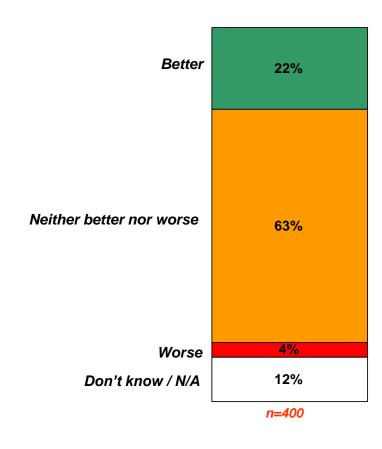




Council Performance Compared with Last Year

% of respondents

Compared with this time last year, would you say the Council organisation is doing a better or worse job of running things?



Q33





6. Value for Money



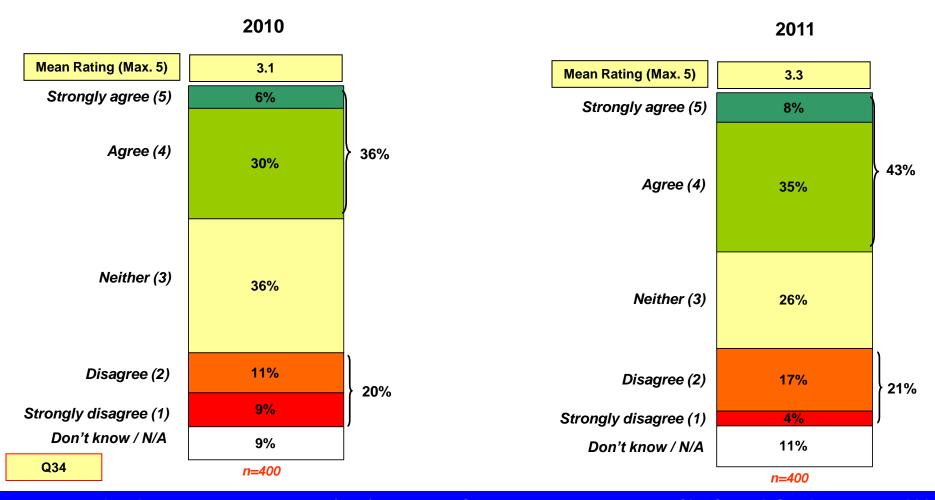




Overall Value for Money

% of respondents

How strongly do you agree with: Nelson City Council services and facilities are good Value for Money?







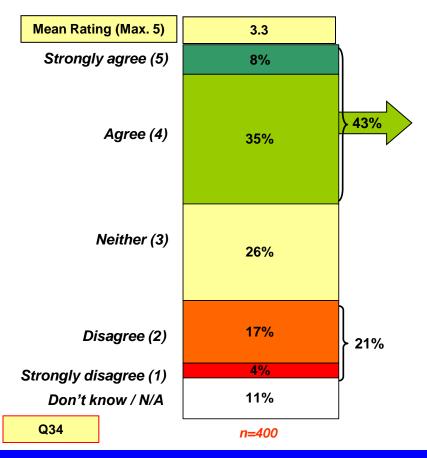


% of respondents

Reasons for Agreement

(Strongly agree / Agree)

How strongly do you agree with: Nelson City Council services and facilities are good Value for Money?





Q34A





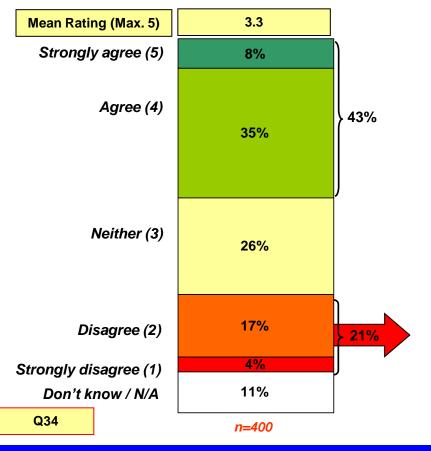


% of respondents

Reasons for Disagreement

(Strongly disagree / Disagree)

How strongly do you agree with: Nelson City Council services and facilities are good Value for Money?





Q34A





7. Sample Profile

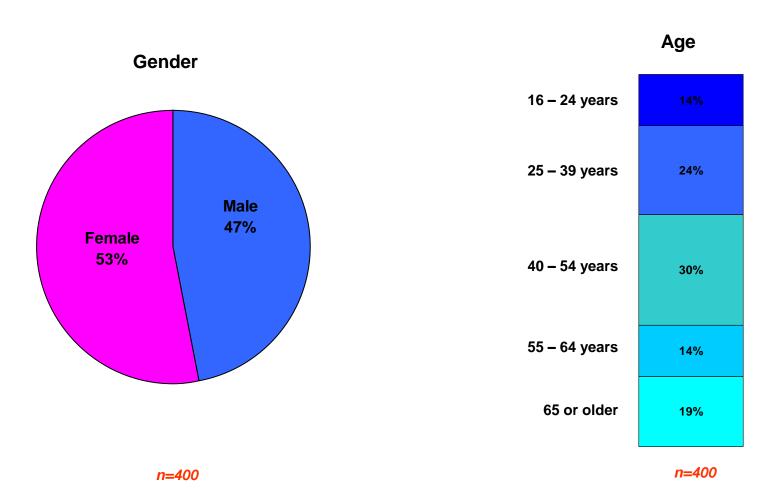






% of respondents

Sample Profile: Demographics (I)



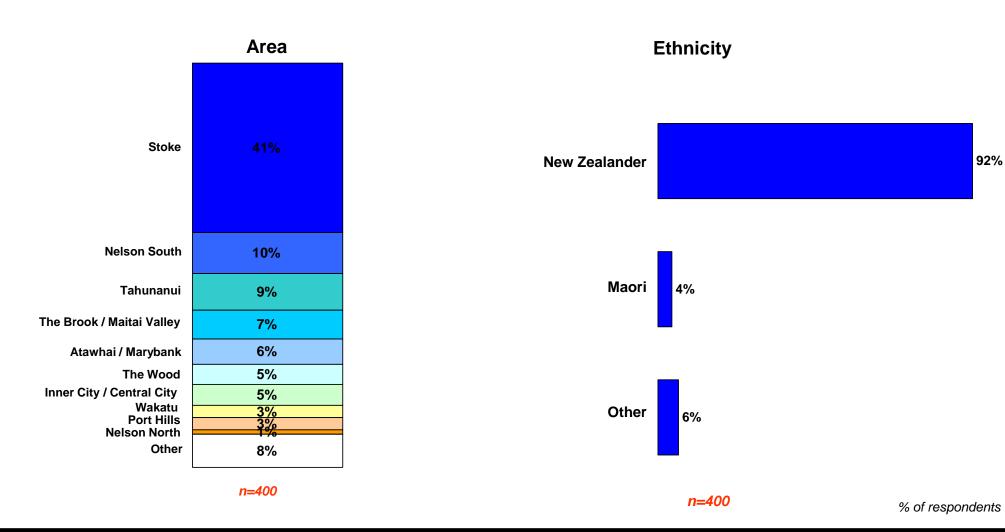






% of respondents

Sample Profile: Demographics (II)



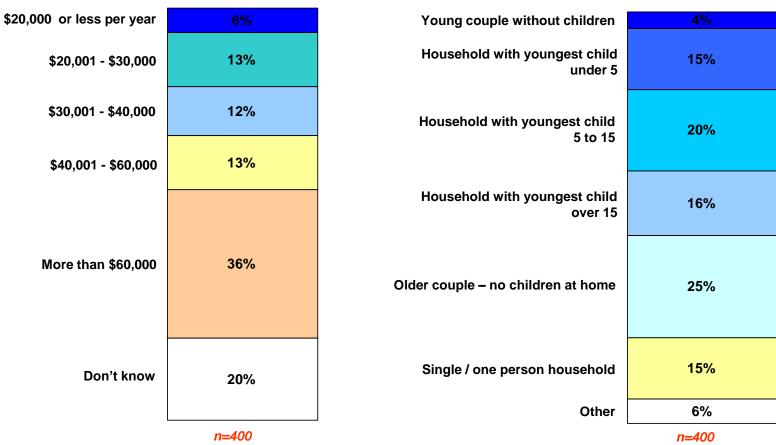






Sample Profile: Demographics (III)

Household Income Household Type



% of respondents