

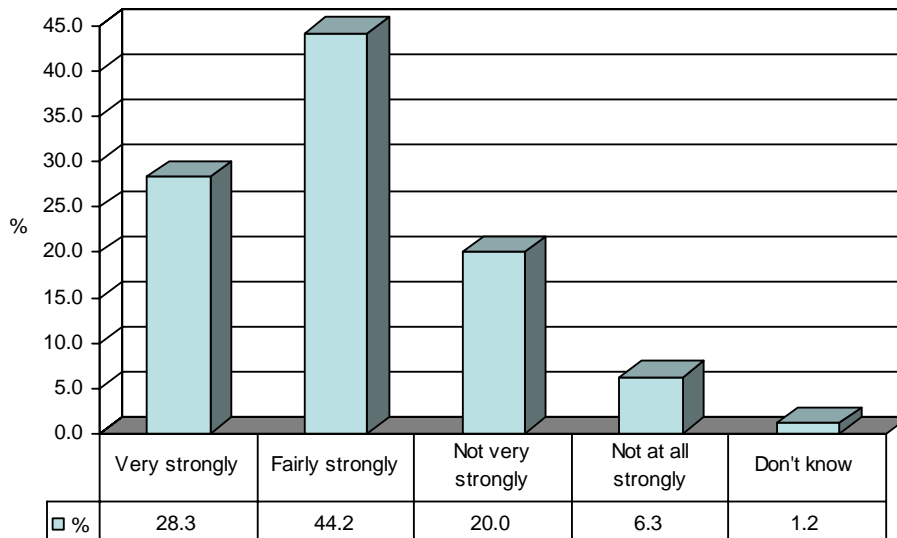
4.0 Results

Section A: Your Community

How strongly do you feel you belong to the following.....?

Your neighbourhood

4.1 Almost three quarters (73%) of respondents felt that that they did belong to their neighbourhood and 28% felt a very strong sense of belonging, whilst just over a quarter (26%) did not feel they belong to their neighbourhood.



(Base number: 1093)

By age

4.2 The younger age groups were also less likely to feel a sense of belonging compared with the older age groups:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	12	23.1%	8	14.0%	13	15.3%	54	19.5%	104	30.9%	63	41.4%	50	41.3%
Fairly Strongly	22	42.3%	23	40.4%	50	58.8%	128	46.2%	151	44.8%	59	38.8%	44	36.4%
Not very strongly	14	26.9%	21	36.8%	14	16.5%	68	24.5%	57	16.9%	24	15.8%	20	16.5%
Not at all strongly	2	3.8%	4	7.0%	7	8.2%	22	7.9%	24	7.1%	6	3.9%	4	3.3%
Don't know	2	3.8%	1	1.8%	1	1.2%	5	1.8%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	3	2.5%

By area

- 4.3 Residents living in Mid Bedfordshire felt a stronger sense of belonging to their neighbourhood (78%) compared to those living in Bedford Borough (71%) and South Bedfordshire (69%):

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	162	26.7%	80	30.3%	67	30.2%
Fairly Strongly	271	44.6%	125	47.3%	87	39.2%
Not very strongly	120	19.8%	50	18.9%	49	22.1%
Not at all strongly	46	7.6%	6	2.3%	17	7.7%
Don't know	8	1.3%	3	1.1%	2	0.9%

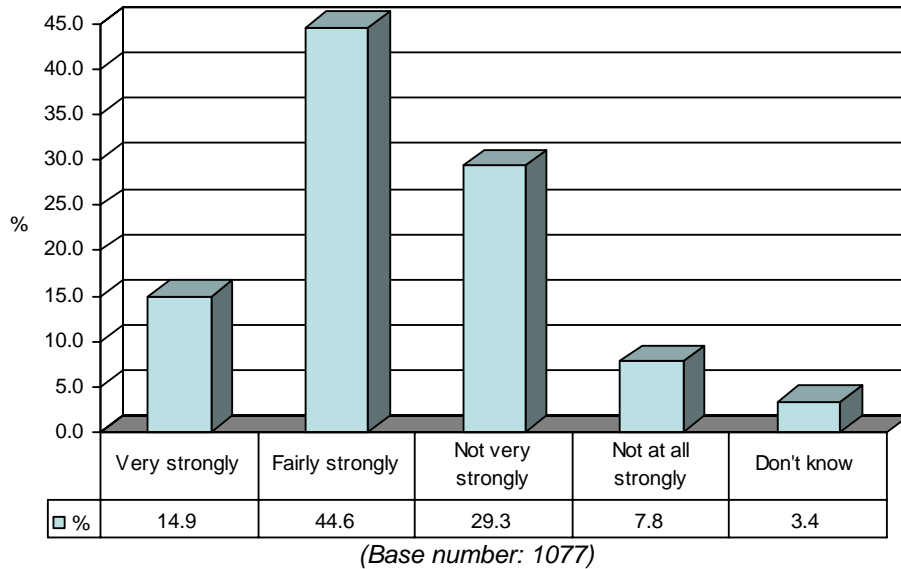
By ethnicity

- 4.4 Non-white respondents were also less likely to feel a sense of belonging compared to white residents:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	296	28.3%	6	17.1%
Fairly Strongly	466	44.6%	14	40.0%
Not very strongly	209	20.0%	7	20.0%
Not at all strongly	64	6.1%	5	14.3%
Don't know	10	1.0%	3	8.6%

A wider community of people or interest

4.5 Compared to a sense of belonging with their neighbourhood, fewer respondents (60%) felt that they belonged to a wider community of people or interest and over one third of respondents (37%) did not feel they belonged to a wider community of people or interest.



By age

4.6 The following table shows the breakdown by the different age groups:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	4	7.7%	5	8.8%	13	15.3%	39	14.3%	50	15.1%	26	17.4%	23	19.5%
Fairly Strongly	25	48.1%	26	45.6%	29	34.1%	105	38.5%	162	48.9%	80	53.7%	46	39.0%
Not very strongly	17	32.7%	22	38.6%	32	37.6%	96	35.2%	85	25.7%	28	18.8%	33	28.0%
Not at all strongly	3	5.8%	4	7.0%	9	10.6%	24	8.8%	26	7.9%	7	4.7%	9	7.6%
Don't know	3	5.8%	0	0.0%	2	2.4%	9	3.3%	8	2.4%	8	5.4%	7	5.9%

By area

- 4.7 Unlike the association towards their neighbourhood, respondents from Mid Bedfordshire indicated the lowest levels of agreement that they belonged to a wider community of people or interest:

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	78	13.2%	46	17.4%	36	16.2%
Fairly Strongly	270	45.7%	123	46.6%	87	39.2%
Not very strongly	173	29.3%	68	25.8%	75	33.8%
Not at all strongly	53	9.0%	14	5.3%	17	7.7%
Don't know	17	2.9%	13	4.9%	7	3.2%

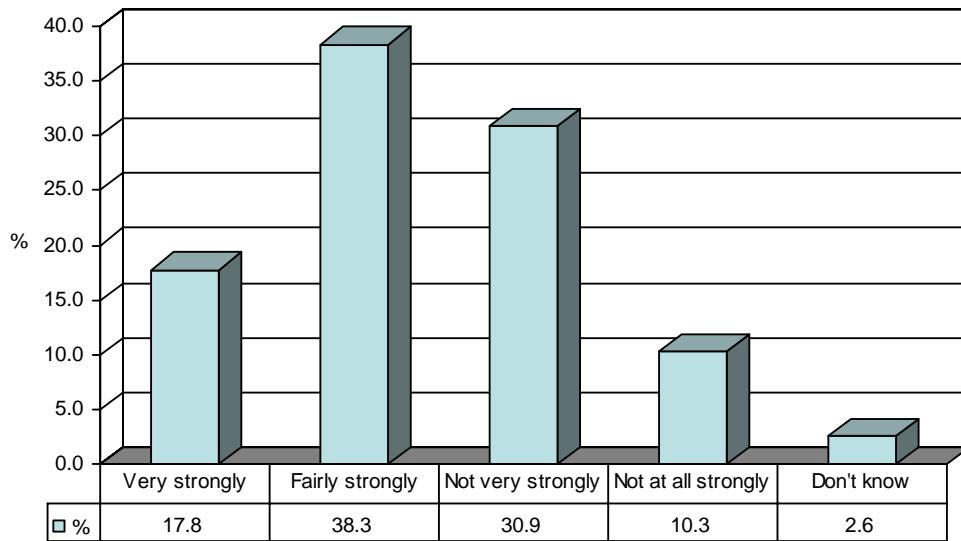
By ethnicity

- 4.8 Again, white respondents were more likely to feel a sense of belonging:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	156	15.1%	2	5.9%
Fairly Strongly	458	44.5%	13	38.2%
Not very strongly	300	29.1%	15	44.1%
Not at all strongly	81	7.9%	2	5.9%
Don't know	35	3.4%	2	5.9%

Bedfordshire

4.9 More than half of all respondents felt that they belonged to Bedfordshire; however, 41% did not indicate a sense of belonging with their County.



(Base number: 1076)

By age

4.10 The younger age groups felt less of a belonging to Bedfordshire than the older age groups:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	9	17.3%	6	10.5%	7	8.2%	41	15.1%	55	16.6%	35	23.8%	39	32.5%
Fairly Strongly	24	46.2%	30	52.6%	34	40.0%	84	31.0%	130	39.2%	58	39.5%	47	39.2%
Not very strongly	15	28.8%	17	29.8%	30	35.3%	101	37.3%	106	31.9%	37	25.2%	23	19.2%
Not at all strongly	3	5.8%	4	7.0%	11	12.9%	36	13.3%	33	9.9%	15	10.2%	7	5.8%
Don't know	1	1.9%	0	0.0%	3	3.5%	9	3.3%	8	2.4%	2	1.4%	4	3.3%

By area

- 4.11 Residents living in South Bedfordshire (63%) and Mid Bedfordshire (61%) felt a stronger sense of belonging to their County compared to those living in Bedford Borough (52%):

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	85	14.4%	60	22.7%	47	21.2%
Fairly Strongly	219	37.1%	101	38.3%	92	41.4%
Not very strongly	196	33.2%	81	30.7%	56	25.2%
Not at all strongly	79	13.4%	14	5.3%	18	8.1%
Don't know	11	1.9%	8	3.0%	9	4.1%

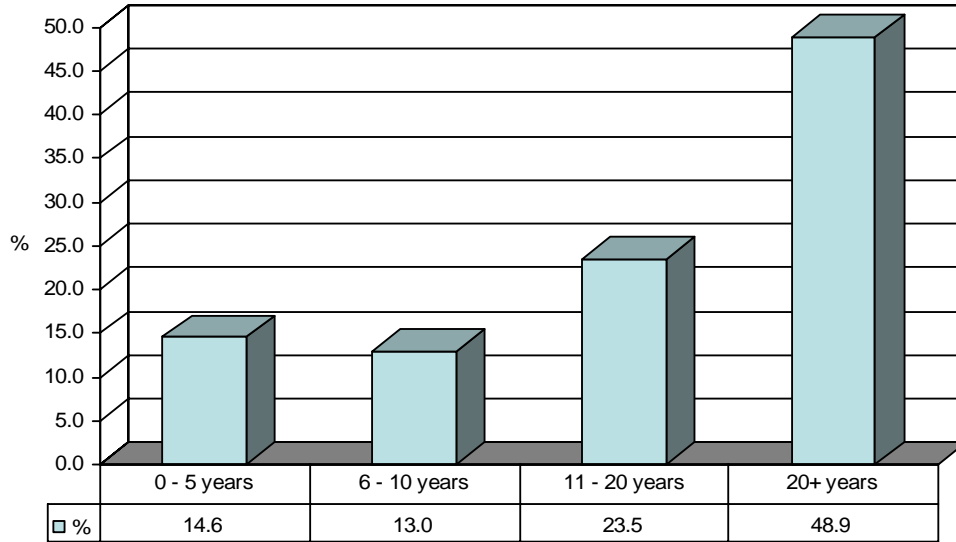
By ethnicity

- 4.12 There was less difference when comparing the white and non white responses in regards their sense of belonging to Bedfordshire:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
Very Strongly	187	18.2%	4	11.8%
Fairly Strongly	391	38.0%	14	41.2%
Not very strongly	316	30.7%	13	38.2%
Not at all strongly	107	10.4%	3	8.8%
Don't know	28	2.7%	0	0.0%

How many years have the respondents lived in this neighbourhood?

4.13 Nearly half of all respondents have lived in their neighbourhood for more than 20 years, 23% had lived in their neighbourhood between 11 – 20 years and a similar number had lived in their neighbourhood for 10 years or less.



(Base number: 1097)

By age

4.14 As one would expect the older age groups have lived in the area for longer:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
0-5 years	9	17.3%	11	19.3%	42	49.4%	60	21.7%	22	6.5%	10	6.6%	6	4.9%
6-10 years	8	15.4%	4	7.0%	14	16.5%	56	20.2%	38	11.2%	14	9.2%	6	4.9%
11-20 years	33	63.5%	21	36.8%	11	12.9%	70	25.3%	85	25.0%	20	13.2%	15	12.3%
20+ years	2	3.8%	21	36.8%	18	21.2%	91	32.9%	195	57.4%	108	71.1%	95	77.9%

By area

4.15 The table below shows the question split by area:

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
0-5 years	106	17.3%	20	7.6%	34	15.3%
6-10 years	102	16.7%	26	9.8%	15	6.8%
11-20 years	137	22.4%	65	24.6%	56	25.2%
20+ years	266	43.5%	153	58.0%	117	52.7%

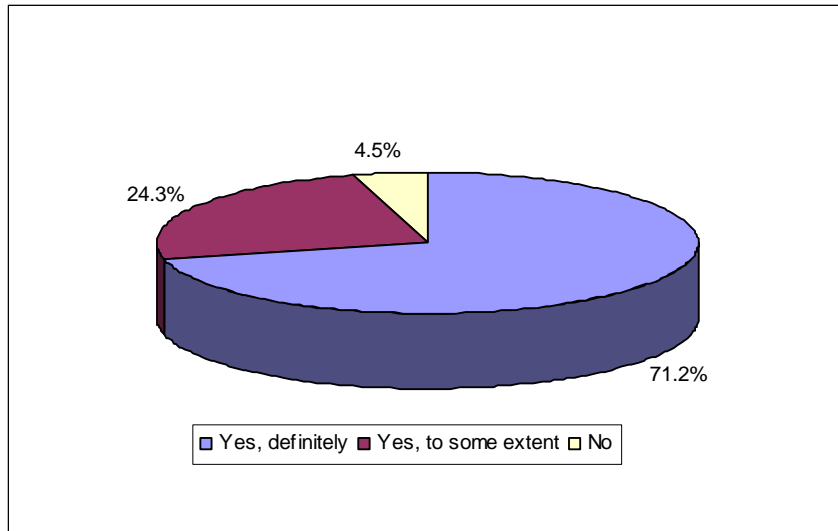
By ethnicity

4.16 As one would expect, a higher percentage of white respondents have lived in their neighbourhood for more than 20 years compared with non white respondents:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
0-5 years	142	13.5%	17	48.6%
6-10 years	136	13.0%	3	8.6%
11-20 years	247	23.5%	9	25.7%
20+ years	524	50.0%	6	17.1%

Do you enjoy living in your neighbourhood?

4.17 Over 71% of respondents definitely enjoy living in their neighbourhood and almost a quarter (24%) enjoys living in their neighbourhood to some extent. Less than 5% of respondents do not enjoy living in their neighbourhood.



(Base number: 1096)

By age

4.18 With the exception of those aged 16 – 19 it was the older age groups who were more positive about living in their neighbourhood:

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes, definitely	39	75.0%	37	64.9%	59	69.4%	179	64.6%	248	73.2%	112	73.7%	98	80.3%
Yes, to some extent	11	21.2%	15	26.3%	22	25.9%	86	31.0%	74	21.8%	38	25.0%	18	14.8%
No	2	3.8%	5	8.8%	4	4.7%	12	4.3%	17	5.0%	2	1.3%	6	4.9%

By area

- 4.19 A higher number of residents living in the Mid Bedfordshire area definitely enjoyed living in their neighbourhood compared to those living in South Bedfordshire or Bedford Borough:

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes, definitely	414	67.9%	215	81.4%	152	68.5%
Yes, to some extent	170	27.9%	40	15.2%	56	25.2%
No	26	4.3%	9	3.4%	14	6.3%

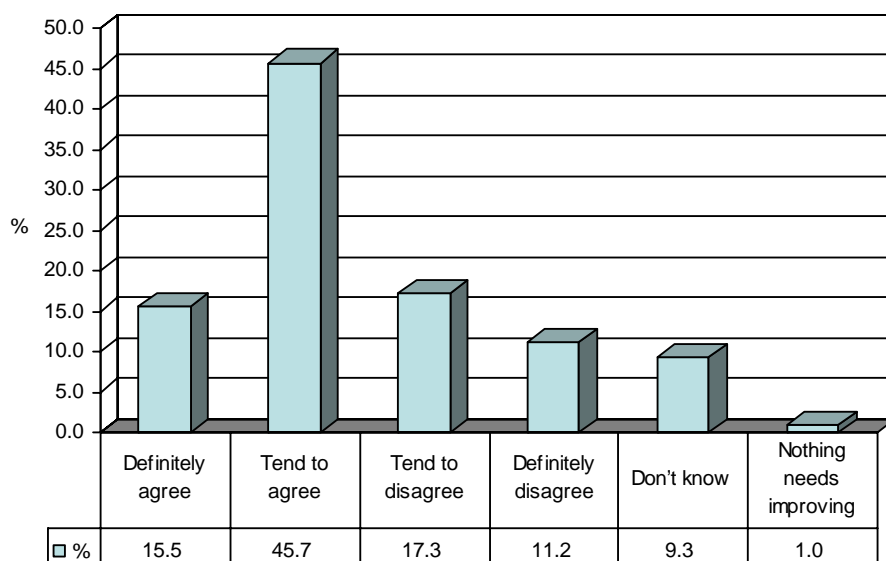
By ethnicity

- 4.20 White respondents indicated a stronger sense of enjoyment from living in their neighbourhood compared with non white respondents:

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
Yes, definitely	753	71.9%	19	54.3%
Yes, to some extent	247	23.6%	15	42.9%
No	48	4.6%	1	2.9%

To what extent do you agree or disagree that people in your neighbourhood pull together to improve the neighbourhood?

4.21 Over 61% of respondents agreed that people in their neighbourhood pull together to improve the neighbourhood and 29% indicates a level of disagreement.



(Base number: 1095)

By age

4.22 The following table shows the results split by the different age groups

Age	16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65-74		75 +	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Definitely agree	6	11.5%	3	5.3%	11	12.9%	41	14.9%	61	18.0%	22	14.5%	24	19.7%
Tend to agree	23	44.2%	27	47.4%	42	49.4%	114	41.3%	160	47.2%	78	51.3%	51	41.8%
Tend to disagree	12	23.1%	16	28.1%	12	14.1%	52	18.8%	57	16.8%	25	16.4%	12	9.8%
Definitely disagree	6	11.5%	6	10.5%	9	10.6%	35	12.7%	40	11.8%	13	8.6%	13	10.7%
Don't know	5	9.6%	5	8.8%	10	11.8%	31	11.2%	20	5.9%	12	7.9%	18	14.8%
Nothing needs improving	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.2%	3	1.1%	1	0.3%	2	1.3%	4	3.3%

By area

4.23 Again, a stronger sense of community was apparent in Mid Bedfordshire as 70% of respondents from this area felt that people in their neighbourhood pulled together to improve their neighbourhood, compared with 59% in Bedford Borough and 55% in South Bedfordshire.

Area	Bedford Borough		Mid Bedfordshire		South Bedfordshire	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Definitely agree	86	14.1%	51	19.3%	33	14.9%
Tend to agree	276	45.3%	134	50.8%	90	40.5%
Tend to disagree	116	19.0%	25	9.5%	48	21.6%
Definitely disagree	64	10.5%	29	11.0%	30	13.5%
Don't know	59	9.7%	23	8.7%	20	9.0%
Nothing needs improving	8	1.3%	2	0.8%	1	0.5%

By ethnicity

4.24 White respondents were more likely to agree with this statement compared to non-white respondents; however, this was mainly because the levels of those saying don't know was higher amongst the non-whites.

Ethnicity	White		Non white	
	n	%	n	%
Definitely agree	164	15.7%	4	11.4%
Tend to agree	482	46.0%	13	37.1%
Tend to disagree	178	17.0%	6	17.1%
Definitely disagree	121	11.6%	2	5.7%
Don't know	91	8.7%	10	28.6%
Nothing needs improving	11	1.1%	0	0.0%