

# Bristol Quality of Life survey 2022/23



## Quality of Life Survey 2022/23 – Final Report (June 2023)

### 1. Introduction to Quality of Life 2022/23

[Quality of Life](#) is an extensive annual resident's survey for Bristol that has been running, in different formats, since 2001. It provides key indicators including measures of inequality, and is a core source of performance metrics for the [Bristol City Council \(BCC\) Business Plan](#) as well as the [One City Plan](#), [Bristol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment](#) and other [BCC intelligence and statistics products](#).

The Bristol Quality of Life survey is a robust, randomised sample of the population. In 2022 (as since 2019) the survey was mailed to 33,000 Bristol households chosen at random, including a follow up mailing with a paper survey option, and a targeted third phase to boost numbers from low responding groups (see Methodology appendix). There were 4,420 total responses, with 3,905 final “useable” responses meeting the required criteria (similar response to last year). Most (61%) of the final useable responses were submitted online (well above 52% last year). The survey was open Sept-Oct 2022 to residents aged 16 and over in the selected households.

The 2022 survey had 75 questions, producing around 190 indicators, on topics including health, lifestyles, community, local services and living in Bristol. Most questions have been kept unchanged, with some revisions reflecting new or changed priorities.

### 2. Results of the Quality of Life survey 2022/23

Full results of all indicators are available in the [Quality of Life data dashboard](#):

#### [Quality of Life 2022/23 results](#)

The dashboard provides all results for each indicator (by theme) including Bristol overall, Bristol wards, demographic & equality groups, and deciles of deprivation (with a focus on the 10% most deprived areas). The dashboard also shows ward and group trends as well as the overall trend back to 2018 (unless responses are too low).

This report focusses on **50 Priority Indicators**, highlighting headline issues including:

- **City-wide Summary** – looks at the results for Bristol overall from the 2022 survey, and if these have changed compared to last year and since 2020.
- **Deprivation Summary** – records the sentiment of people who live in the 10% most deprived areas of the city (to highlight issues of inequalities), and whether these results differ from the city average, and from the previous year.
- **Appendix: Summary of full results** (June 2023) – all indicators by all aspects

The colour-coding shows how responses have changed over time, or the “Deprivation gap”, and also highlights where changes are significantly different (using a statistical t-test); due to different response levels, the significance threshold varies between indicators. This report also analyses the 3,400 open text responses on the **actions to improve quality of life** people want to see in Bristol.

## Quality of Life 2022/23 Priority indicators: City-wide Summary

- a) \* = a new indicator in the 2022 survey (or change to existing question)  
 b) **Blue text** denotes BCC Corporate Business Plan 2022-23 performance indicators  
**Green text** denotes other PIs (on BCC Performance Management system)  
 c) Cells are greyed out where comparisons are not possible due to question not being included in previous surveys.  
 d) Please note that gap figures are based on rounded data with whole percentages.

KEY		Statistically Significantly Worse
↑ Increased %	● No change	Worse
↓ Decreased %		Better
		Statistically Significantly Better

	2019	2021	2022	3 year trend	Change last year
<b>Community and Living</b>					
% satisfied with their local area	79%	74%	75%	↓	+1
% who feel they belong to their neighbourhood	62%	63%	65%	↑	+2
% who agree people from different backgrounds get on well together in their neighbourhood	71%	70%	74%	↑	+4
% who volunteer or help out in their community at least 3 times a year	48%	46%	47%	↓	+1
% who lack the information to get involved in their community	28%	31%	27%	↓	-4
% who have access to the internet at home	95%	96%	96%	↑	0
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>					
% satisfied with life	75%	68%	62%	↓	-6
% below average mental wellbeing	15%	20%	21%	↑	+1
% who see friends and family as much as they want to	82%	77%	78%	↓	+1
% who do enough regular exercise each week	71%	67%	64%	↓	-3
% who play sport at least once a week	46%	55%	54%	↑	-1
% who bought less "healthier" food in the past year*			10%		
% households with a smoker	17%	16%	16%	↓	0
% at a higher risk of alcohol related health problems	16%	15%	16%	●	+1
% households which have experienced moderate to severe food insecurity	5%	5%	8%	↑	+3
% households that used a 'food bank' during the last 12 months	1%	2%	2%	↑	0
<b>Crime and Safety</b>					
% whose fear of crime affects their day-to-day lives	16%	19%	17%	↑	-2
% who feel police and public services successfully tackle crime and anti-social behaviour locally	28%	25%	22%	↓	-3
% victim of racial discrimination or harassment in last year	6%	5%	5%	↓	0
% who think domestic abuse is a private matter	7%	6%	6%	↓	0
% who feel unsafe from sexual harassment using public transport in Bristol*			8%		
<b>Education and Skills</b>					
% who know where to get information, advice and guidance about employment and training	61%	65%	65%	↑	0
% who have taken part in learning or training in the last year		53%	52%		-1
<b>Sustainability and Environment</b>					
% satisfied with the quality of parks and green spaces	72%	75%	73%	↑	-2
% who visit Bristol's parks and green spaces at least once a week	53%	59%	56%	↑	-3
% who think street litter is a problem locally	81%	82%	82%	↑	0
% satisfied with the recycling service	68%	68%	73%	↑	+5
% satisfied with the general household waste service	71%	71%	74%	↑	+3
% who think air quality and traffic pollution is a problem locally	77%	75%	70%	↓	-5
% concerned about climate change	88%	87%	87%	↓	0
% who have reduced their household waste due to climate change concerns	69%	64%	55%	↓	-9
% concerned about the loss of wildlife in Bristol		87%	85%		-2
% who have created space for nature		53%	53%		0
<b>Culture and Leisure</b>					
% satisfied with the range and quality of outdoor events	74%	52%	53%	↓	+1
% who participate in cultural activities at least once a month	43%	32%	32%	↓	0
% satisfied with the range and quality of entertainment and hospitality venues and events at night		64%	64%		0
% satisfied with leisure facilities/services	46%	38%	40%	↓	+2
% satisfied with activities for children/young people	37%	34%	38%	↑	+4
<b>Transport</b>					
% who think traffic congestion is a problem locally	77%	74%	74%	↓	0
% who walk or cycle to work (active travel)	38%	39%	32%	↓	-7
% who ride a bicycle at least once a week	28%	27%	25%	↓	-2
% satisfied with the local bus service	48%	49%	38%	↓	-11
<b>Housing</b>					
% satisfied overall with their current accommodation	88%	82%	84%	↓	+2
% satisfied with the cost of their rent or mortgage payments	59%	53%	49%	↓	-4
% extremely or moderately worried about keeping their home warm this winter*			48%		
<b>Economy</b>					
% who find it difficult to manage financially	9%	9%	10%	↑	+1
% who shop in their local shopping street at least once a week		46%	49%		+3
<b>Council and Democracy</b>					
% satisfied with the way Bristol City Council runs things	43%	39%	39%	↓	0
% who feel Bristol City Council provides value for money	28%	26%	26%	↓	0
% satisfied with the way BCC asks for their views before it makes changes that affect them		33%	30%		-3

## Quality of Life 2022/23 Priority indicators: Deprivation Summary

- a) \* = a new indicator in the 2022 survey (or change to existing question)  
 b) "2022 Deprived" shows results from households in the 10% most deprived areas within Bristol (based on the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation)  
 c) "2022 Gap" is the difference between the "10% Most Deprived" and 2022 city average.  
 d) Blue text denotes BCC Corporate Business Plan 2022-23 performance indicators  
 Green text denotes other PIs (on BCC Performance Management system)  
 e) Please note that gap figures are based on rounded data with whole percentages.

### KEY

<span style="color: red;">■</span>	Statistically Significantly Worse
<span style="color: orange;">■</span>	Worse
<span style="color: lightgreen;">■</span>	Better
<span style="color: limegreen;">■</span>	Statistically Significantly Better

	2021 Deprived	2022 Citywide	2022 Deprived	2022 Gap	Change in Deprived
<b>Community and Living</b>					
% satisfied with their local area	51%	75%	48%	-27	-3
% who feel they belong to their neighbourhood	47%	65%	50%	-15	+3
% who agree people from different backgrounds get on well together in their neighbourhood	57%	74%	61%	-13	+4
% who volunteer or help out in their community at least 3 times a year	36%	47%	38%	-9	+2
% who lack the information to get involved in their community	28%	27%	31%	+4	+3
% who have access to the internet at home	91%	96%	93%	-3	+2
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>					
% satisfied with life	55%	62%	46%	-16	-9
% below average mental wellbeing	32%	21%	34%	+13	+2
% who see friends and family as much as they want to	68%	78%	67%	-11	-1
% who do enough regular exercise each week	61%	64%	52%	-12	-9
% who play sport at least once a week	36%	54%	39%	-15	+3
% who bought less "healthier" food in the past year*		10%	25%	+15	
% households with a smoker	29%	16%	26%	+10	-3
% at a higher risk of alcohol related health problems	17%	16%	9%	-7	-8
% households which have experienced moderate to severe food insecurity	11%	8%	16%	+8	+5
% households that used a 'food bank' during the last 12 months	5%	2%	4%	+2	-1
<b>Crime and Safety</b>					
% whose fear of crime affects their day-to-day lives	36%	17%	32%	+15	-4
% who feel police and public services successfully tackle crime and anti-social behaviour locally	23%	22%	22%	0	-1
% victim of racial discrimination or harassment in last year	9%	5%	8%	+3	-1
% who think domestic abuse is a private matter	10%	6%	10%	+4	0
% who feel unsafe from sexual harassment using public transport in Bristol*		8%	12%	+4	
<b>Education and Skills</b>					
% who know where to get information, advice and guidance about employment and training	67%	65%	62%	-3	-5
% who have taken part in learning or training in the last year	46%	52%	47%	-5	+1
<b>Sustainability and Environment</b>					
% satisfied with the quality of parks and green spaces	52%	73%	46%	-27	-6
% who visit Bristol's parks and green spaces at least once a week	42%	56%	40%	-16	-2
% who think street litter is a problem locally	96%	82%	93%	+11	-3
% satisfied with the recycling service	62%	73%	59%	-14	-3
% satisfied with the general household waste service	61%	74%	58%	-16	-3
% who think air quality and traffic pollution is a problem locally	67%	70%	63%	-7	-4
% concerned about climate change	74%	87%	80%	-7	+6
% who have reduced their household waste due to climate change concerns	53%	55%	43%	-12	-10
% concerned about the loss of wildlife in Bristol	82%	85%	85%	0	+3
% who have created space for nature	50%	53%	49%	-4	-1
<b>Culture and Leisure</b>					
% satisfied with the range and quality of outdoor events	40%	53%	35%	-18	-5
% who participate in cultural activities at least once a month	22%	32%	24%	-8	+2
% satisfied with the range and quality of entertainment and hospitality venues and events at night	46%	64%	45%	-19	-1
% satisfied with leisure facilities/services	28%	40%	28%	-12	0
% satisfied with activities for children/young people	26%	38%	17%	-21	-9
<b>Transport</b>					
% who think traffic congestion is a problem locally	62%	74%	63%	-11	+1
% who walk or cycle to work (active travel)	28%	32%	23%	-9	-5
% who ride a bicycle at least once a week	18%	25%	17%	-8	-1
% satisfied with the local bus service	49%	38%	34%	-4	-15
<b>Housing</b>					
% satisfied overall with their current accommodation	71%	84%	77%	-7	+6
% satisfied with the cost of their rent or mortgage payments	51%	49%	44%	-5	-7
% extremely or moderately worried about keeping their home warm this winter*		48%	62%	+14	
<b>Economy</b>					
% who find it difficult to manage financially	19%	10%	18%	+8	-1
% who shop in their local shopping street at least once a week	41%	49%	44%	-5	+3
<b>Council and Democracy</b>					
% satisfied with the way Bristol City Council runs things	34%	39%	31%	-8	-3
% who feel Bristol City Council provides value for money	22%	26%	23%	-3	+1
% satisfied with the way BCC asks for their views before it makes changes that affect them	29%	30%	30%	0	+1

### 3. Key Findings 2022/23: Full results

Full details are now available in the [Quality of Life data dashboard](#), which includes results for all 192\* indicators, as well as for all Bristol wards, for an expanded range of demographic & equality groups, and for deciles of deprivation (including data on the “deprivation gap” for all indicators). In total the data dashboard includes around 16,000 data points from the 2022/23 survey, plus an additional 39,000 data points from the four previous surveys. [\*Note: not all indicators are available at all reporting levels]

For the ward and demographic / equality groups though (including the 10% most deprived areas), a colour-coded statistical t-test has been used to show whether the figure is statistically significantly worse or better than the city average for that indicator, so there is insight provided for each level in the data dashboard.

[All “Quality of Life 2022-23” data is also available to download via [Open Data Bristol](#)].

#### Overall changes

There are 192 indicators in the full QoL 2022/23 suite, and out of these, 172 were measured in both 2021 and 2022.

Of the QoL indicators with data for the previous year:

- 28 indicators were significantly better in 2022 – with most of the positive changes in the Themes: Community & Living (7); Sustainability & Environment (7); Culture & Leisure (5); Crime & Safety (5)

The most improved were

- “% for whom feeling safer from COVID-19 would encourage them to visit venues and events more often at night” (reducing from 30.2% to 9.4%)
- “% for whom Covid fear/restrictions prevent them from leaving their home when they want to” (reducing from 19.4% to 7.4%)
- “% whose home has been flooded during heavy downpours” (dropping from 1.7% to 0.7%)
- “% who don't have any or enough digital devices” (from 1.3% to 0.7%).
- “% who have cyber security or privacy concerns” (from 3.5% to 2.2%)
- “% for whom air pollution prevents them from leaving their home when they want to” (reducing from 8.3% to 5.3%)

- 30 indicators were significantly worse in 2022 – with most negative changes in in the Themes: Health & Wellbeing (8); Sustainability & Environment (7); Transport (5); Community and Living (4)

The largest deteriorations were

- “% households which have experienced severe food insecurity” (increasing from 1.8% to 3.7%, whilst those who experienced moderate to severe food insecurity rose from 4.6% to 8.1%)
- “% whose financial circumstances prevent them from leaving their home when they want to” (increasing from 8.9% to 16.7%)
- “% satisfied with the cost of heating their home” (down from 34.7% to 21.6%)

- 16 had no polarity (2 were significantly lower; 0 higher)
- 98 indicators (with polarity) were not statistically significantly different (although the figure may be slightly better or worse).

## 4. Key Findings 2022/23: Priority Indicators

Overall, results from the 2022/23 survey show a mixed picture. Of the 50 headline Priority Indicators shown, 15 are improved on 2021/22 results (8 by a statistically significant amount), 14 are unchanged, and 18 indicators are worse than last year (10 by a statistically significant amount); 3 are new measures this year.

In the 10% most deprived areas, all but 6 results for our most deprived communities are worse than those expressed by the average Bristol resident (and statistically significantly worse in 32 of the 50), 21 indicators do show results at least slightly better than the previous year with improvements especially in the Community & Living and Economy Themes. However, 24 show a worsening picture in the most deprived areas (especially in the Sustainability & Environment, Culture & Leisure and Transport Themes); 2 are unchanged and 3 are new.

- **Community and Living**

Results in this section are better than last year overall, and several have also improved slightly in the most deprived areas. However, most have a significant “deprivation gap”.

Satisfaction with “your local area” remains around 75% (1% point up city-wide) but fell slightly to 48% in the most deprived areas; it has a “Deprivation gap” (27% points) that is one of the starkest of all QoL indicators, wider than the gap (23% points) last year.

74% feel “people from different backgrounds get on well together” in their neighbourhood, a significant increase on last year, and also rose slightly in the most deprived areas (61%). 65% feel they “belong to their neighbourhood”, a slight increase both city-wide and in the most deprived areas (50%).

Close to half of people (47%) regularly volunteer or help out in their community, similar to last year, and only 27% report they “lack the information to get involved in the community”, significantly less than last year, though this rose in deprived areas (31%)

96% of people have access to the internet at home, same as last year, and this figure improved slightly in the most deprived areas (93%).

- **Health and Wellbeing**

This section has generally worse results compared to last year, and most are significantly worse than 2019 before the Covid-19 pandemic. Most also have large “deprivation gaps”, with results significantly worse in the most deprived areas.

People reporting being satisfied with life (62%) continued to fall significantly overall (from 68% last year and 75% pre-pandemic) and also fell 9% in the most deprived areas (46%). People reporting below average mental wellbeing (via a detailed suite of questions) remains high at 21% (significantly worse than 15% pre-pandemic) and remains higher (34%) in the most deprived areas (slightly worse than last year).

8% of households experience “moderate or worse food insecurity” (via a detailed suite of questions), significantly worse than last year and pre-pandemic (both 5%), doubling to 16% in the most deprived areas. A new question on people buying less “healthier” food options in the last year (10%) is also much worse in most deprived areas (25%).

A positive result is people at higher risk of alcohol-related health problems in the most deprived areas (9%) has fallen significantly and is now one of the few results better in the most deprived areas than city-wide (16%). No change in the proportion of people living in a house where someone smokes (16%), which has also improved slightly in the most deprived areas (26%).

Slightly more people (78%) were able to see friends & family as much as they want, but still less than pre-pandemic results. People doing enough weekly exercise is also continuing to fall (64%), and also fell 9% in the most deprived areas (52%). People playing sport each week (54%) is similar to last year, and up on 2019 results (46%).

- **Crime and Safety**

17% of people in Bristol feel “fear of crime affects their day-to-day life”, and this is significantly worse (32%) in the most deprived areas (although is slightly better than last year in both figures). Only 22% of people feel police and public services are “successfully dealing with issues of crime & anti-social behaviour”, significantly worse than recent years.

The proportion of people who report being a victim of racial discrimination or harassment in the last year remained static at 5% (8% in the most deprived areas). People who think “Domestic abuse is a private matter” (6%) also stayed the same.

A new indicator on people who “feel unsafe from sexual harassment using public transport in Bristol” shows 8% overall report feeling unsafe (71% feel safe), and 12% of people who live in the most deprived areas feel unsafe. Further analysis of this indicator highlights that 12% of women feel unsafe (65% feel safe), but this doubles to 25% of young women aged 16-24 feeling unsafe (58% feel safe).

- **Education and Skills**

65% of people know where to get information or advice about employment and training, same as last year, but this fell to 62% in the most deprived areas. A recent indicator on training participation shows that over half of people (52%) have “taken part in any learning or training in the last year” (47% in the most deprived areas).

- **Sustainability and Environment**

Results in this section show a mixed picture compared to last year, but generally are better than 2019, pre Covid-19 pandemic. Satisfaction with Bristol parks and green spaces (73%) is broadly similar to recent years citywide, but with less than half (46%) satisfied in the most deprived areas this continues to have a “Deprivation gap” (27% points) that is one of the worst of all QoL indicators. Also, people visiting parks or green spaces at least once a week (56%) fell significantly in the last year.

On a positive note, satisfaction with Bristol’s household waste (74%) and recycling services (73%) both rose significantly last year and are above pre-pandemic levels. The proportion of residents who think street litter is a problem remains unchanged (82%) but is slightly improved (93%) in the most deprived areas.

Those who think “air quality and traffic pollution is a problem locally” has fallen significantly to 70%, much improved on pre-pandemic levels, and also improved in the most deprived areas (63%).

87% of people are concerned about the impact of climate change, same as last year, though only 55% report reducing their household waste due to this, significantly fewer than previous years, and especially so in the most deprived areas. Indicators linked to the Ecological Emergency show that 85% of people are concerned about the loss of wildlife (or biodiversity) in Bristol and 53% “create space for nature”; both are the same or similar as last year, with little or no “Deprivation gap”.

- **Culture and Leisure**

Overall, this section is slightly better than last year, but significantly worse than pre-

pandemic figures. All indicators here have a significant “Deprivation gap”.

The proportion of people satisfied with outdoor events (53%) and with leisure services (40%) both rose slightly last year, and those who “take part in cultural activities once a month” remained low (32%), though did rise slightly in the most deprived areas (24%). Satisfaction with activities for children/young people (38%) rose significantly citywide but fell in the most deprived areas (17%).

The night-time economy indicator remained the same, with 64% of people in Bristol satisfied with “the range and quality of entertainment venues at night” (45% in the most deprived areas).

- **Transport**

Overall, results in this section are worse than last year, and worse than results pre-pandemic. Satisfaction with the local bus service continued to fall significantly (38% from 49%) and fell even further in the most deprived areas (34% from 49%). Those taking “active travel” (walk or cycle) to get to work also fell significantly (32%), and fell in the most deprived areas (23%). Only 1 in 4 (25%) now cycle at least once a week.

However, 74% of people think “traffic congestion is a problem locally”, same as last year but significantly better than pre-pandemic; this is 63% in the most deprived areas.

- **Housing**

The percentage of people satisfied with their current accommodation has risen (84% citywide and 77% in the most deprived areas), but satisfaction with the cost of rent or mortgage has fallen significantly (49%), a 10% points drop compared to 2019. A new indicator on those “worried about keeping their home warm this winter” shows almost half (48%) are extremely or moderately worried, rising to 62% in deprived areas.

- **Economy**

1 in 10 people (10%) report they “find it difficult to manage financially”, broadly similar to last year, but almost 1 in 5 (18%) in the most deprived areas.

Almost half of people (49%) in Bristol shop locally at least once a week (an indicator on local “High Streets”) which is significantly better than last year, and has also risen in the most deprived areas (44%).

- **Council and Democracy**

Overall satisfaction with the Council is the same as last year city-wide, and broadly similar in the most deprived areas; however, it is below pre-pandemic levels.

Satisfaction with “the way the Council runs things” remains at 39% (significantly below the 43% in 2019); it fell slightly in the most deprived areas (31%) and the “deprivation gap” is now 8% points, higher than 5% last year but better than the 18% points gap previously. For reference, 35% of people overall are dissatisfied with the Council, and 26% don’t feel strongly one way or the other.

26% of people feel the Council provides Value for Money, same as last year (41% feel the Council does not, and 33% have no opinion).

The question on how “BCC asks for your views before it makes changes that affect you” shows 30% of people feel that the Council does enough, significantly fewer than last year (33%). However, this rose slightly in the most deprived areas (30%) so there is no disparity between the city average and the most deprived areas for this indicator.

## 5. Actions to improve quality of life in Bristol

In addition to the many indicators, an open text question was asked: “What action or change do you feel would most improve your overall quality of life in Bristol?”. Almost 3,400 responses were given, same as last year, many of which raise multiple issues.

This section highlights that actions related to **transport** remain the top priority for the citizens of Bristol, particularly better and more affordable **public transport** and more reliable **buses** - these issues are always the top concern, but the focus on them has intensified. Other transport-related issues include less **traffic** & congestion, more **parking, cycling**, and keeping **pavements** clear (no scooters or car parking).

In addition, other changes that feature highly include **cleaner streets** and less **litter**, more **affordable housing**, and less **air pollution**. The introduction of the Clean Air Zone also features, but opinion is split.

Also more **local services**, better-maintained **green spaces** and less **Council tax**.

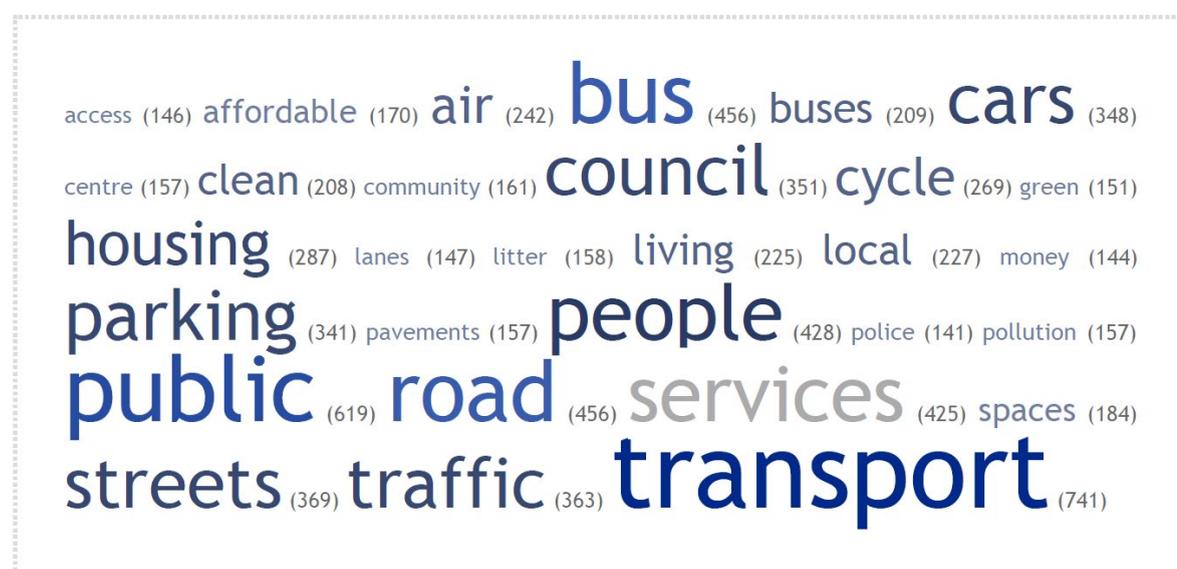


Fig 5.1: Word cloud of the Top 30 individual terms that people noted (2022)

- **City-wide analysis and changes**

Detailed analysis of city-wide results shows that the Transport category was by far the greatest area of concern, as in previous years, with over 2,560 points made. Council Services (574 points raised) was second, above Environmental issues (518).

Category 2022	Sub-Category 2022	Issues Raised	2022 Ranking	2021 Ranking	2020 Ranking
Transport	Improve Buses and/or Public Transport	819	1	1	2
Waste and street cleanliness	Litter and/or Street Cleanliness	323	2	4	6
Transport	Reduce Congestion/ less cars	276	3	2	1
Council Services	Democracy and Governance	225	4	3	5
Environment	Air Pollution	207	5	5	3
Transport	Improve Cycling Facilities	193	6	6	4
Transport	Affordability of Public Transport	167	7	16	21
Environment	Parks and Green Spaces	156	8	10	14
Community & Living	Local Community and Facilities	138	9	7	7
Housing	House Price / Rent Affordability	138	9	8	13

Table 5.2: Table of the Top 10 Sub-categories that people noted

## 6. Respondents

There were 4,423 responses in total, of which 4,246 had Bristol post-codes and **3,905 final “useable” responses** met the required sample criteria. NB the primary focus of the survey is on responses to the random sample, with a targeted third phase to improve responses from under-represented areas and Equality groups; this means that responses from the third phase are only included where needed (further details in Methodology appendix).

The headline results are adjusted using population weights based on age and sex to help account for ward differences in response and population size.

3,905 responses was similar (slightly more) to last year, but still below the previous 2 years (final “useable” responses were 3,870 in 2021 but 4,400 in 2020 & 4,100 in 2019). Online responses (61%) were well above last year (52%), and previous years (55% in 2020 & 47% in 2019).

- **Ward responses**

This year, all wards bar one achieved the target of 100 responses<sup>1</sup>. The range in response by ward is from 97 in Bishopsworth (& 101 in Frome Vale) to 138 in Cotham (137 in Easton and 135 in Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston). As in the previous 3 years, this gives a relatively even distribution across the city, including from areas with historically low response rates. This is the result of the additional resources put in to boost the sample to help improve the representativeness of the survey. See *ward map and chart in Fig 6.1 for details*.

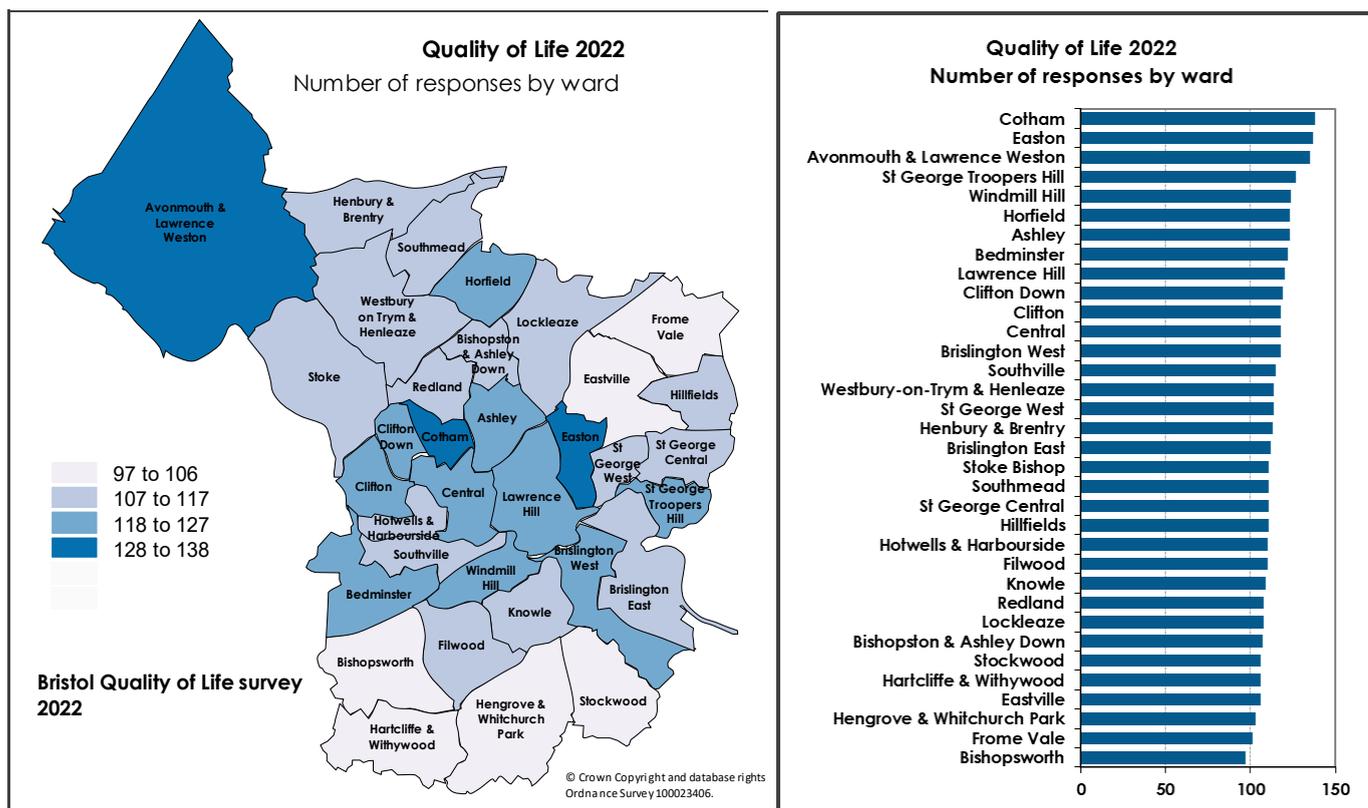


Fig 6.1: Ward map and chart of number of responses by Ward

<sup>1</sup>Bishopsworth ended just short of target with 97 responses. Responses for 3 other Wards were boosted by the “third phase” in order to meet target (Hartcliffe & Withywood, Hengrove & Whitchurch Park and Stockwood)

- **Equality group responses**

See Fig 6.2 below for details - respondents to the 2022/23 survey by equality groups compared to the Bristol population and survey responses from the last 2 years:

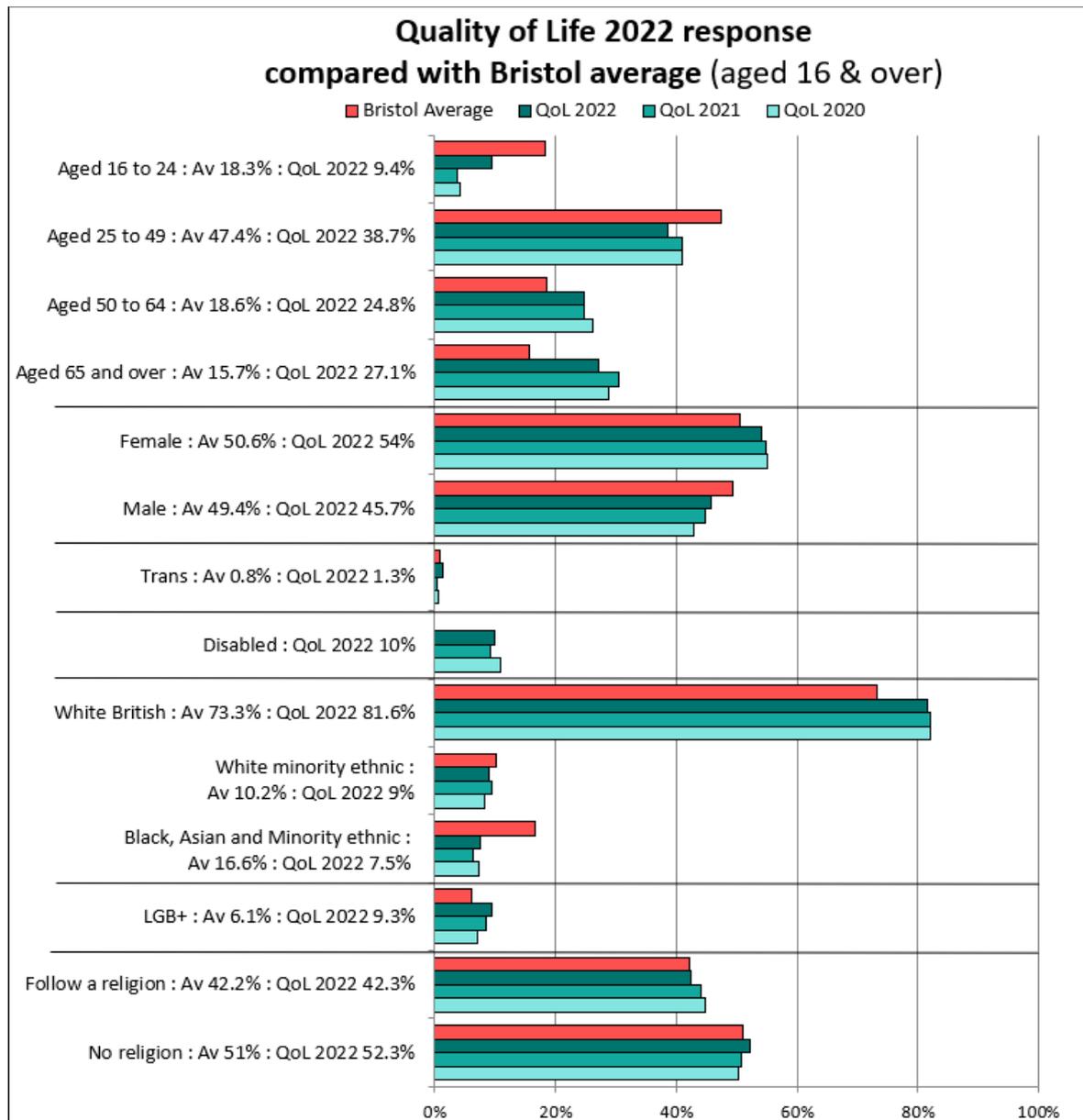


Fig 6.2: QoL 2022 survey responses by Equality group, compared to previous years and city average

Regarding overall responses by Equality groups, the group most under-represented is still young people (aged 16-24). The representation of young people, at 9.4%, is more than two and a half times than in 2021, which was 3.7%, but this is still well below the city average (18.3%); partly though this is because the survey excludes student accommodation.

Responses from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups represent 7.5% of respondents in the 2022 survey, above responses in recent years (6.4% in 2021, 7.4% in 2020 and 6.7% in 2019) but still well below the city average (16.6% of residents over 16; Census 2021). People from White minority ethnic groups (i.e. White ethnic groups excluding White British) are only slightly under-represented being 9% of respondents, below the city average (10.2% of residents over 16 are White minority ethnic)

Religion is the one characteristic where representation in the survey matches the Census figure. People with a religion is 42% for both counts, differing only by 0.1%.

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The proportions of each sex are like those found in the previous survey (2021/22) with more women responding (54%) than men (45.7%).

Both LGB+ and Trans people are over-represented, at 9.3% and 1.3% of respondents respectively. These compare with city averages of 6.1% and 0.8% respectively.

10% of respondents self-identify as disabled, slightly more than in 2021/22 (9.3%), but slightly less than in 2020/21 (10.8%). The Census does not ask whether a respondent identifies as a disabled person, so there is no official Bristol comparison figure. However, a related measure, people whose day-to-day activities are limited by a long-term physical or mental illness or health condition, is included in both the Census and the QoL survey. Responses from people with a limiting illness or health condition are 32.4% of respondents, far higher than the city average of 19.5%. This is consistent with the over-representation of older people in the survey.

## 7. Further Information and contact details

The full range of all Quality of Life 2022/23 indicators is now published in the [Quality of Life data dashboard](#), including results for:

- all 190+ indicators, with trend since 2018 (where available) for:
  - citywide trend
  - all 34 Bristol wards
  - 3 NHS ICS Locality Partnership areas plus sub-localities
  - over 30 equality and demographic groups
  - 10 deciles of deprivation across Bristol
- each Bristol ward - overview of all indicators within those wards
- every ICS Locality Partnership area
- equality and demographic groups - overview of all indicators by group

Results are weighted on ward, sex & age; further details in the Methodology appendix.

For further information, please see [www.bristol.gov.uk/qualityoflife](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/qualityoflife) or contact [gol@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:gol@bristol.gov.uk).

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## 8. Appendix: Summary of Ward and Demographic Group results (June 2023)

The main body of the report focussed on city-wide results and those from the most deprived areas for the Priority Indicators. This appendix presents summary results of analysis of *all indicators*<sup>2</sup> in the QoL survey broken down by *all aspects*: Wards, Most Deprived Areas, ICS Locality Partnership areas and Equality / Demographic Groups (c16,000 data points).

For each indicator, a statistical t-test has been used to determine whether the figure in each ward is statistically significantly worse or better than the city average. The same statistical test has been applied to deprived areas, each ICS Locality Partnership area and each demographic group.

Note – full statistical results are available via the [QoL data dashboard](#).

### Ward summary

Overall Ward results are summarised in the chart below. Results for only 175 indicators are shown because there were too few responses per ward for 1 of the indicators to produce ward statistics and 16 of the indicators had no polarity (i.e. a “higher” (or “lower”) value can’t be described as either “better” or “worse”).

Hartcliffe and Withywood ward has, by far, the greatest number of indicators (92) that are significantly worse than the Bristol average, the same situation as in 2021 and 2020.

The two wards with the next highest number of “worse” indicators are Lawrence Hill and Stockwood (with 50 each), followed by Filwood (42).

Hengrove & Whitchurch Park and Bishopsworth wards are not that far behind with 33 and 31 worse indicators than the Bristol average respectively.

These wards contain the most deprived areas of Bristol in South and Central Bristol, with 5 of the 6 most negatively impacted wards in South Bristol.

Conversely, the wards with the smallest number of indicators that are worse than the Bristol average (6 or less) are clustered in the north and west of Bristol and contain the least deprived areas of Bristol.

Of these wards, Redland has the greatest number of indicators (88) that are significantly better than the Bristol average, followed by Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze (77) and Bishopston & Ashley Down (74). All three wards in north of the city

The four wards with the next highest number of “better” indicators are located in the west of the city, namely Clifton Down (53), Hotwells & Harbourside (52), Clifton (49) and Stoke Bishop (48).

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<sup>2</sup> Note – whilst this Appendix and the Data Dashboard aims to include results all QoL indicators broken down by all aspects, in some instances there is insufficient number of responses to produce a robust estimate for a ward, deprived areas and/or demographic group.

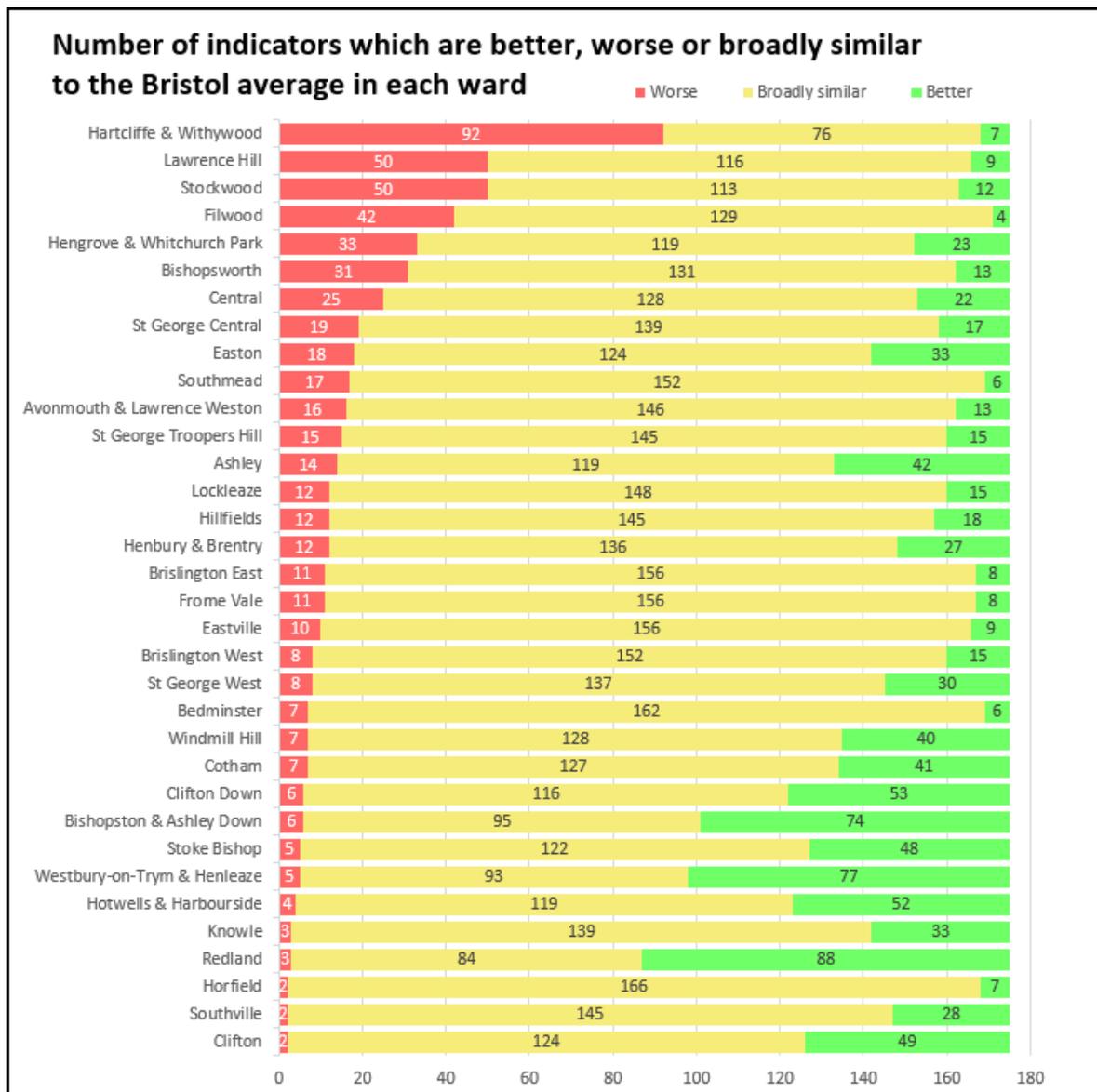


Fig 8.1: Chart showing the number of indicators significantly different from Bristol average by ward

### Demographic Group summary

The results for the 10% most deprived areas are shown with those for other demographic groups in the chart below, where residents of deprived areas are classed as a demographic group for comparisons.

Disabled people are the group with the greatest number of indicators (115) significantly worse than the Bristol average, as in previous years.

The two groups with the next highest number of "worse" indicators are people with non-degree qualifications, i.e. GCSE, NVQ or A level (97) and council tenants (96), followed by people with no qualifications (90).

Other groups with a relatively high number of worse indicators are people living in the most deprived areas (84), full-time carers (83) and housing association tenants (75).

Of the ethnic groups, Asian/Asian British and Black/Black British have the largest number of worse indicators, at 37 and 34 respectively.

Note - There is overlap between demographic groups, as a higher proportion of members of one group may also belong to another group compared with the city average e.g. deprived areas have more council housing. In such cases when an indicator is

significantly different for both groups it may be that the results of one group is in fact confounded due to the cross-over with the other group. In the analysis used here it is not possible to disentangle these impacts and say which is the driving factor.

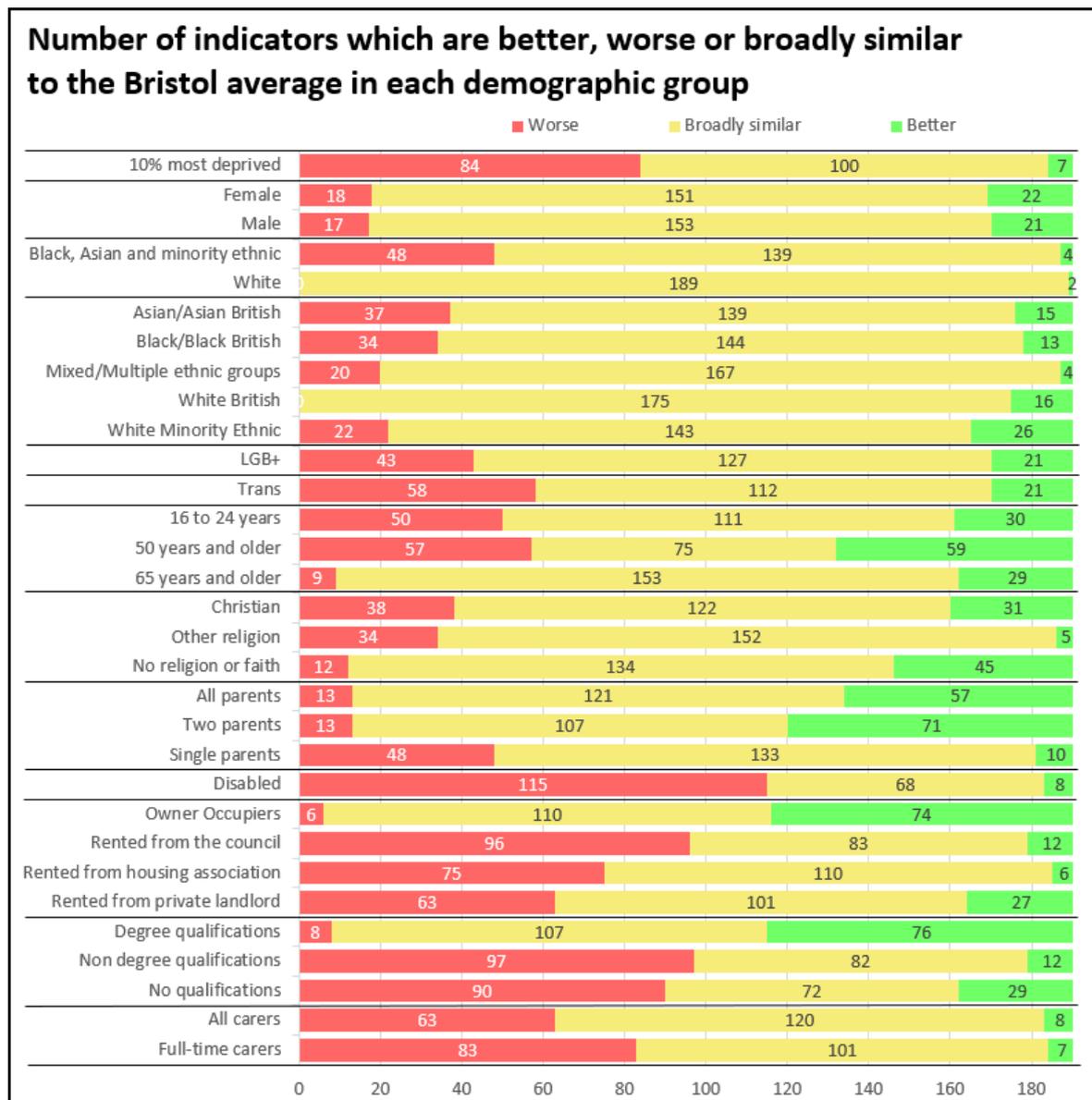


Fig 8.2: Chart showing the number of indicators significantly different from the Bristol average in each demographic group

### Headline Issues for Selected Demographic Groups

The groups identified as having a large number of worse indicators, and the size of the differences are considerable, are explored in further detail. For each of these groups and for every worse indicator, the “Gap” has been calculated by subtracting the group average from the city average (adjusting for any negative values).

- **10% Most Deprived Areas**

For residents living in the most deprived areas there are 10 indicators where the figure for deprived areas is more than twice or less than half the Bristol average. The biggest gap is the proportion of people having no qualifications, which is almost two and a half times as likely for people living in the deprived areas compared with the city average. Also of note, in comparison with city average, just under two and a half as likely to have bought less ‘Healthier’ food in the past year, less than half as likely to be satisfied that public land is kept clear of litter and refuse, more than twice as likely to be smokers and less than half are satisfied with activities for children/young people.

<b>10% Most Deprived Areas – significantly worse indicators</b>	<b>Group average</b>	<b>Bristol average</b>	<b>Gap</b>
% with no formal qualification	18.3%	7.2%	11.1%
% households who bought less 'Healthier' food in the past year	24.8%	10.5%	14.3%
% satisfied public land is kept clear of litter and refuse	18.9%	41.9%	23.0%
% smokers	21.8%	9.8%	12.0%
% satisfied with activities for children/young people	17.3%	37.9%	20.6%
% who feel lonely because they don't see friends and family enough	10.4%	4.9%	5.5%

Table 8.1: Table of selected QoL indicators which are worse in the most deprived areas

- **Disabled people**

For disabled people there are 115 indicators worse than the city average. Headlines:

- Over a quarter (26.4%) report suffering from disability discrimination or harassment in the last year.
- Over an eighth (13.0%) have experienced severe food insecurity, over three and a half times the city average.
- Almost a third (32.3%) are physically inactive, over three and a half times the city average.

<b>Disabled people – significantly worse indicators</b>	<b>Group average</b>	<b>Bristol average</b>	<b>Gap</b>
% for whom accessibility issues stop them from getting involved in their community	19.1%	2.6%	16.5%
% with illness or health condition which limits day-to-day activities a lot	53.8%	8.8%	45.0%
% victim of disability discrimination or harassment in last year	26.4%	4.1%	22.3%
% whose poor health stops them from getting involved in their community	60.1%	10.8%	49.3%
% whose physical health prevents them from leaving their home when they want to	54.2%	10.1%	44.1%
% whose lack of support and assistance prevents them from leaving their home when they want to	13.6%	2.6%	11.0%
% for whom benefit rules stop them from getting involved in their community	8.8%	1.5%	7.3%
% who are inactive	32.3%	9.1%	23.2%
% who don't have any or enough digital devices	3.5%	0.7%	2.8%
% households which have experienced severe food insecurity	13.0%	3.7%	9.3%

Table 8.2: Table of selected QoL indicators which are worse for disabled people

- **Council tenants**

For council tenants 96 indicators are worse than the Bristol average. Headlines:

- over three tenths (31.8%) have no qualifications, almost four and a half times the city average
- more likely to be unable to afford home broadband or equipment (8.2%), over four and a half times the city average
- more likely to live where someone smokes regularly within the home (14.5%), four times the city average
- more likely to experience severe food insecurity (13.3%), over three and a half times city average

<b>Council tenants – significantly worse indicators</b>	<b>Group average</b>	<b>Bristol average</b>	<b>Gap</b>
% who cycle to work	2.3%	14.4%	12.1%
% with no formal qualification	31.8%	7.2%	24.6%
% for whom benefit rules stop them from getting involved in their community	7.3%	1.5%	5.8%
% who cannot afford home broadband or equipment	8.2%	1.8%	6.4%
% who ride a bicycle at least once a week	6.5%	25.1%	18.6%
% households where someone smokes regularly within the home	14.5%	3.6%	10.9%
% morbidly obese	9.6%	2.3%	7.3%
% victim of disability discrimination or harassment in last year	15.9%	4.1%	11.8%
% whose poor health stops them from getting involved in their community	37.9%	10.8%	27.1%
% households which have experienced severe food insecurity	13.3%	3.7%	9.6%

Table 8.3: Table of selected QoL indicators which are worse for council tenants

- **Full-time carers**

For full-time carers there are 83 indicators worse than the city average. Headlines:

- About 4 in 9 (45.3%) say caring responsibilities prevent them from leaving their home when they want to.
- Almost 1 in 7 (14.3%) are prevented from getting involved in their community due to accessibility issues. Nearly 1 in 11 (8.6%) are stopped from leaving home because of a lack of support and assistance and about 2 in 9 (23.0%) suggested they would visit venues and events more often if the venues were more accessible
- Almost 2 in 9 (21.7%) were victims of disability discrimination or harassment in last year.

<b>Full-time carers – significantly worse indicators</b>	<b>Group average</b>	<b>Bristol average</b>	<b>Gap</b>
% whose caring responsibilities prevent them from leaving their home when they want to	45.3%	3.8%	41.5%
% victim of disability discrimination or harassment in last year	21.7%	4.1%	17.6%
% for whom accessibility issues stop them from getting involved in their community	14.3%	2.6%	11.7%
% who lack the skills or confidence to use the internet	19.4%	4.4%	15.0%
% with illness or health condition which limits day-to-day activities a lot	27.1%	8.8%	18.3%
% who have cyber security or privacy concerns	7.5%	2.2%	5.3%
% whose lack of support and assistance prevents them from leaving their home when they want to	8.6%	2.6%	6.0%
% whose physical health or disability prevents them from leaving their home when they want to	28.6%	10.1%	18.5%
% whose poor health stops them from getting involved in their community	29.9%	10.8%	19.1%
% for whom accessible venues would encourage them to visit venues and events more often at night	23.0%	8.5%	14.5%

Table 8.4: Table of selected QoL indicators which are worse for full-time carers

- **Asian / Asian British**

For Asian/Asian British people there are 37 indicators worse than the city average. Headlines include:

- Most likely group to experience racial discrimination or harassment (36.2%) and also suffers from religious discrimination or harassment (10.8%).
- 3 in 25 (12%) experience severe food insecurity (19.2%), over 3 times the city average.

<b>Asian/Asian British people – significantly worse indicators</b>	<b>Group average</b>	<b>Bristol average</b>	<b>Gap</b>
% victim of racial discrimination or harassment in last year	36.2%	5.3%	30.9%
% victim of religious discrimination or harassment in last year	10.8%	1.9%	8.9%
% households which have experienced severe food insecurity	12.0%	3.7%	8.3%
% who cycle to work	6.0%	14.4%	8.4%
% for whom transport issues stop them from getting involved in their community	28.1%	13.5%	14.6%
% for whom feeling more welcome would encourage them to visit venues and events more often at night	26.0%	12.8%	13.2%

Table 8.5: Table of selected QoL indicators which are worse for Asian/Asian British people

- **Black / Black British**

For Black/Black British people there are 34 indicators worse than the city average. Headlines include:

- 20.3% report experiencing racial discrimination or harassment in the last year, almost 4 times city average.
- The group least likely to visit parks and green spaces regularly, only 1 in 5 (20.3%) compared with over half (56%) the average Bristol resident.

<b>Black/Black British people – significantly worse indicators</b>	<b>Group average</b>	<b>Bristol average</b>	<b>Gap</b>
% who are doing a part-time education course	0.0%	1.6%	1.6%
% victim of racial discrimination or harassment in last year	20.3%	5.3%	15.0%
% who visit Bristol's parks and green spaces at least once a week	20.3%	56.0%	35.7%
% who find it difficult to manage financially	27.0%	10.2%	16.8%
% households who bought less 'Healthier' food in the past year	26.5%	10.5%	16.0%

Table 8.6: Table of selected QoL indicators which are worse for Black/Black British people

- **Single parents**

For single parents there are 48 indicators worse than the city average. Headlines include:

- Least likely group to have very high life satisfaction (2.9%) or above average mental wellbeing (2.6%).
- Over 1 in 4 (26.6%) experience food insecurity (20.5%), over 3 times city average.
- Almost 1 in 4 (23%) have financial difficulties, over twice city average.

<b>Single parents – significantly worse indicators</b>	<b>Group average</b>	<b>Bristol average</b>	<b>Gap</b>
% very high life satisfaction	2.9%	15.0%	12.1%
% households which have experienced moderate to severe food insecurity	26.6%	8.1%	18.5%
% for whom child or respite care would encourage them to visit venues and events more often at night	38.1%	12.8%	25.3%
% whose caring responsibilities prevent them from leaving their home when they want to	11.4%	3.8%	7.6%
% above average mental wellbeing	2.6%	6.7%	4.1%
% who find it difficult to manage financially	23.0%	10.2%	12.8%

Table 8.7: Table of selected QoL indicators which are worse for single parents

- **Trans**

For trans people there are 58 indicators worse than the city average, many of which are evidence of the worst outcomes of any group. Headlines include:

- 6 in 10 (59.8%) suffered from discrimination and harassment in the past year, and almost 1 in 3 (32.2%) feel unsafe from sexual harassment using public transport.
- Almost a third experience food insecurity (32.7%) and a third (32.5%; not necessarily the same people) find it difficult to manage financially.
- Over half (53.7%) are sometimes prevented from leaving home due to their mental / emotional health.

<b>Trans people – significantly worse indicators</b>	<b>Group average</b>	<b>Bristol average</b>	<b>Gap</b>
% trans people who have suffered discrimination or harassment	59.8%	1.3%	58.5%
% satisfied with the cost of heating their home	0.0%	21.6%	21.6%
% victim of discrimination or harassment in last year due to sexual orientation	27.1%	2.4%	24.7%
% non-library card holders satisfied with libraries	3.7%	36.5%	32.8%
% who say nothing prevents them from leaving their home when they want to	8.7%	48.4%	39.7%
% households which have experienced moderate to severe food insecurity	32.7%	8.1%	24.6%
% who feel unsafe from sexual harassment using public transport in Bristol	32.2%	8.5%	23.7%
% whose mental / emotional health prevents them from leaving their home when they want to	53.7%	15.6%	38.1%
% for whom feeling more welcome would encourage them to visit venues and events more often at night	44.1%	12.8%	31.3%
% whose financial circumstances prevent them from leaving their home when they want to	53.9%	16.7%	37.2%
% who find it difficult to manage financially	32.5%	10.2%	22.3%

Table 8.8: Table of selected QoL indicators which are worse for trans people

## Quality of Life survey – Methodology appendix

The [Quality of Life \(QoL\) survey](#) is a cross-sectional study that collects data annually in September / October. The target population are people, aged 16 years and over, resident within Bristol City Council boundaries. The survey also produces estimates for specific sub-populations such as electoral wards, deprivation deciles, sexes, older people, younger people and ethnic groups.

### Random sample process

Individuals are selected at random, from all residential properties listed on the Land and Property Gazetteer (LPG). Student accommodation such as halls of residence are excluded. The survey uses a probability sample to make inferences about the Bristol population, and results are analysed using the “Stata” statistical software package.

The survey is a single stage design with the LPG stratified by Lower Super Output Area (LSOA). This means that the residential properties in the LPG are grouped into LSOAs and then separate random samples are taken from each LSOA. The same number people are selected from every LSOA in a specific ward unless the LSOA crosses a ward boundary. The response target is to obtain at least 100 responses from each ward. The predicted response rate for each LSOA is the weighted moving average of the previous 3 years response rates for that particular LSOA.

### Invitation process

Phase 1: Initially the selected households are mailed an invitation letter asking them to participate, with a link to the online survey. Respondents are asked to enter a unique reference number, so that they can be removed from the reminder mailing to non-responders.

Phase 2: After approx. 2 weeks, those that have already completed the survey in Phase 1 and any that ask to be excluded (or are returned to sender) are removed from the mailing list. A second mailing is then sent out, with an invitation letter (and online link) plus a paper copy of the survey.

Phase 3: After 1-2 weeks (to allow the peak of responses to the second mailing), targeted promotion of the survey (via social media and local groups) is done to low-responding wards (those at risk of not getting 100 responses); NB this is to *all residents* of those wards, not just the households from the random sample. From previous experience it is known that younger people aged 16 to 24 years and black and minority ethnic groups are also routinely under-represented in the survey, so targeted promotion of the survey to *all members* of these groups is carried out at the same time.

[Note – if additional Phase 3 responses are received from people living in wards that are not under-represented in the final analysis, they are not included in the results; this is to retain focus on results from the random sample as much as possible].

### Result weighting

An adjustment, called the finite population correction, is applied to reduce sampling variability due to sampling without replacement. Poststratification is used to adjust sampling weights to sum to the poststratum sizes in the population and so reduce bias due to non-response. The poststrata are ward, age (16-49 years, 50+ years) and sex. The poststratum sizes are the ONS mid-year estimates.

Variance estimates, and thus the standard errors are calculated using a “bootstrap replication” method. The bootstrap is more robust than linearization methods to non-response.

Occasionally missing data can leave only a single sampling unit (individual) in a stratum (LSOA). In these cases the LSOA is merged with a neighbouring LSOA within the same ward.