

Satisfaction with the Way the City Looks and Feels

What this is about...

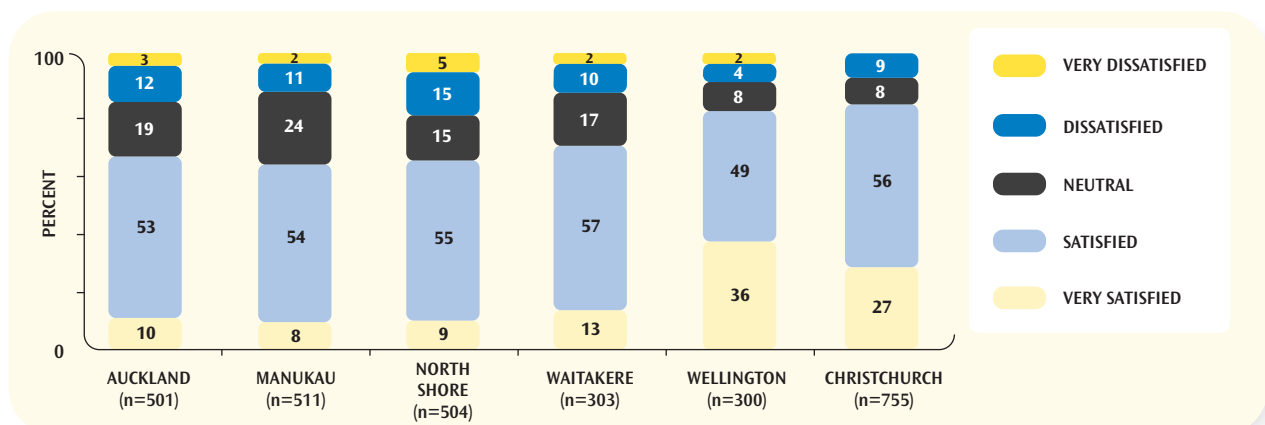
Ideally, citizens of a city feel a sense of pride and enjoyment about the area in which they live. It is very difficult, however, to measure citizen satisfaction with their city, as there will be many aspects of how people experience and feel.

This indicator provides a broad overview of general satisfaction levels among residents of the six largest cities, as a starting point for further consideration. Respondents to citizens' surveys undertaken in the six largest cities were asked to rate how satisfied they were overall with the 'look and feel' of their city.

What did we find ?

- Overall, over one half of respondents to the citizens' surveys indicated that they were 'satisfied' with the way their city looks and feels.
- Wellington and Christchurch Cities had relatively high proportions of citizens who were 'very satisfied' with the way their city looks and feels (36% and 27% respectively) when compared with the four Auckland cities. This may well be related to the relative size of the urban areas in which the six cities sit - that is, the four Auckland cities are part of a much larger urban area with inherent transport, congestion and pollution problems.
- Considerable proportions of respondents were neutral on the subject, especially in Manukau City where one in four were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.
- Reasons given for dissatisfaction with cities varied slightly, however the most common reasons given by those who were dissatisfied included:
 - city dirty and polluted
 - too much rubbish on the streets
 - too much graffiti
 - did not like pace or look of 'urban sprawl' and new housing developments
 - traffic congestion.

CITIZENS' SATISFACTION WITH THE LOOK AND FEEL OF THEIR CITY AS A WHOLE (2000)



Data Source: Citizens' surveys

These findings will be linked to many other indicators in this report, such as access to leisure and recreation, noise levels, air quality, quality of bathing water at beaches, graffiti levels, employment, community safety, community cohesion, health, housing, and educational opportunities.