



The Community Life Survey is a new survey commissioned by Cabinet Office to provide Official Statistics on issues that are key to encouraging social action and empowering communities, including volunteering, giving, community engagement and well-being. Headline findings published today show:

Trust

- In August-October 2012, 42 per cent of people thought that most people could be trusted, similar to 2010-11 levels.

Neighbourhood

- Over half of people (53%) agreed that they borrow things and exchange favours with their neighbours.
- Nearly eight in ten people (79%) had a strong sense of belonging to their neighbourhood, unchanged from 2010-11 but significantly higher than levels between 2003 and 2007-08.
- Eighty four per cent of people were satisfied with their local area as a place to live, broadly unchanged from 2010-11 but significantly higher than levels in 2008-09.
- Sixty two per cent felt that people in their neighbourhood pulled together to improve the neighbourhood, a significant decrease from 67 per cent in 2010-11.
- Nearly nine in ten people (87%) said they lived in an area where people from different backgrounds get on well together, no significant change from 2010-11 but significantly higher than all other levels since 2003.

Civic engagement

- Around one in five (19%) had taken part in some form of civic consultation about local services or problems in the last year, with 2 per cent of people engaging in some form of civic consultation at least once a month.
- Just under half (48%) of people said they would like to be more involved in decisions made by their local council, a significant increase from 44 per cent in 2010-11.

Volunteering and charitable giving

- Seventy one per cent of people had volunteered at least once in the last 12 months, with 45 per cent of people volunteering formally and 61 per cent volunteering informally, significant increases from 2010-11 (65%, 39% and 55% respectively). Just under half (49%) of people had volunteered at least once a month in the past year, a significant increase from 41 per cent in 2010-11.
- Seventy four per cent of people had given money to charity in the four weeks prior to being interviewed, unchanged from 2010-11 levels.

Notes to Editors

- *The Survey is representative of adults (aged 16+) in England. This first release is based on 2,262 interviews carried out between August to October 2012 by TNS-BMRB.*
- *The Survey is designed to be comparable with key measures on the previous Citizenship Survey so that trends can be tracked over time. Where applicable, data from Community Life is compared with data from the 2010-11 Citizenship Survey.*
- *The full statistical release, Excel tables and survey outputs can be found at <http://communitylife.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/>*
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