

Whakatāne District Council

SIL Research | Resident Survey 2019-20

Contact: Dr Virgil Troy 06 834 1996 or virgiltroy@silresearch.co.nz

Research is undertaken to the highest possible standards and in accord with the principles detailed in the RANZ Code of Practice which is based on the ESOMAR Code of Conduct for Market Research. All research processes, methodologies, technologies and intellectual properties pertaining to our services are copyright and remain the property of SIL Research OCTOBER 2020

Disclaimer: This report was prepared by SIL Research for the Whakatāne District Council. The views presented in the report do not necessarily represent the views of SIL Research or the Whakatāne District Council. The information in this report is accurate to the best of the knowledge and belief of SIL Research. While SIL Research has exercised all reasonable skill and care in the preparation of information in this report, SIL Research accepts no liability in contract, tort, or otherwise for any loss, damage, injury or expense, whether direct, indirect, or consequential, arising out of the provision of information in this report.

CONTENTS

4.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

13.

SATISFACTION WITH COUNCIL SERVICES AND FACILITIES

43.

CONTACT WITH COUNCIL

46.

COMMUNICATION

52.

POLICY AND DIRECTION

6.

METHODOLOGY

41.

SPENDING PRIORITIES

44.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

48.

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

53.

APPENDIX

12.

OVERALL SATISFACTION

41

SAFETY

45.

PREFERRED METHOD OF COMMUNICATION

50.

MANAGEMENT

Contents	
Environmental factors	9
Satisfaction at a glance – services users/visitors	10
Satisfaction at a glance (continued)	11
Parks and reserves	13
Walking and cycling facilities in the District	14
Playgrounds	15
Sports fields	16
Public swimming pools	17
Public toilets	
Footpaths	19
Street lighting	20
Libraries in the District	21
Whakatāne Exhibition Centre	22
Public halls	23
Whakatāne Museum and Research Centre	24
Water supply and quality of drinking water	25
Stormwater service	26
Sewerage system	27
Whakatāne crematorium facility	28
Cemeteries overall	29
Harbour facilities	
Noise control	
Dog control	
Kerbside waste collection service	
Refuse transfer station facilities	
Council roads overall and safety of Council roads	35
Parking in Whakatāne	
Tourism promotion	
Whakatāne as a holiday destination and tourism impact on the community	
Efforts to enable and promote events	
Business promotion	40

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this research was to consultatively engage with Whakatāne District's residents to determine levels of satisfaction and perceptions of Council's services, communications and management to identify opportunities for improvement.

Research was conducted between 6 August and 7 September 2020. A total of n=300 surveys were used in the final analysis. In 2020, the survey methodology was reviewed and adjusted, which may, in part, explain greater variations in the results compared to historical data. In addition, other contextual factors may have had an impact.

By the end of March 2020, the national lockdown was announced by the New Zealand Government as a response to the COVID-19 outbreak (Alert Level 4 in New Zealand's epidemic response process). The 2020 survey was conducted after the lockdown but during the subsequent Alert Level 1 and Level 2. The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown are likely to have affected public sentiment to some degree. COVID-19 has had a major impact on people's lives, and some Council services (especially attendance of public facilities) may have been rated lower as a result (e.g. many Council facilities were closed throughout lockdown). COVID-19, and a volcanic eruption occurring at Whakaari/White Island, disrupted Council business and service delivery.

The main findings were as follows:

- 1. Overall, 70% of residents were satisfied with services received from the Whakatāne District Council (above the New Zealand Benchmarking Survey result of 59%).
- 2. Supporting these overall perceptions, 26 out of 29 (90%) Council services rated by Whakatāne District residents achieved satisfaction of 60% or above.
- 3. On average, the three top-rated individual services in 2020 were public libraries (95%, average rating 8.4 out of 10), Whakatāne crematorium facility (90%, average rating 8.5 out of 10) and Whakatāne Exhibition Centre (89%, on average 8.2 out of 10).
- 4. Almost two-thirds of residents (64%) stated they had contact with the Council in the past 12 months (60% of these residents were satisfied with this contact).
- 5. 1-in-5 (20%) residents had contacted a Community Board Member (81% were satisfied with this contact), and 58% had contacted the customer service front desk (79% were satisfied with this contact).
- 6. 76% of residents 'somewhat' or 'strongly agreed' that the Whakatāne District is generally a safe place to live.
- 7. Half of residents (51%) reported taking part in community engagement of some kind; talking to Council representatives at public events was the top cited activity.
- 8. In 2020, *'Social media'* was the most preferred method of Council communication; 54% of residents preferred this method. However, traditional media (e.g. newspaper, radio) remained important.
- 9. Overall, 49% of residents were satisfied with Council's communication and consultation with the public.
- 10. Satisfaction with Council's leadership was 52% in 2020; similar to 50% across New Zealand overall.
- 11. 55% of residents provided ratings of 6 or above for Council's overall management of day-to-day business.
- 12. Two areas in 2020 represented the greatest improvement potential: roads and footpaths. Other areas that could positively impact on perceptions of WDC's overall performance were communication and community engagement (*'keep people informed'* and *'listen to and act on the needs of the people'*), leadership of Mayor and councillors, gaining trust to make good spending decisions, increasing skills and expertise to manage community affairs, and value for money. In addition, residents considered business promotion and water supply the two areas most in need of more Council spending.



METHODOLOGY

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

As a part of the consultation process, Whakatāne District Council (WDC) has commissioned a Resident Satisfaction Survey every year.

The purpose of this research was to consultatively engage with Whakatāne District's residents to determine levels of satisfaction and perceptions of Council's services, communications and management, to identify opportunities for improvement.

QUESTIONNAIRE AND PROJECT SPECIFICS

SIL Research, together with the Whakatāne District Council (WDC), developed a Resident Survey questionnaire. The initial drafting was based on research previously carried out for WDC.

The questionnaire was reviewed and tested prior to full-scale data collection to ensure the survey was fit for purpose.

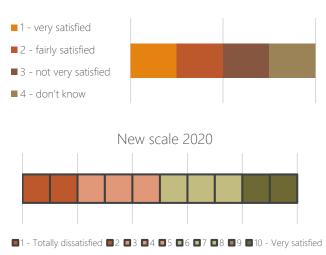
The initial research design included n=600 responses collected over two time periods (late-Autumn and Winter 2020). However, in February 2020, the first cases of a new strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) were reported in New Zealand. By the end of March 2020, the national lockdown was announced by the New Zealand Government as a response to the COVID-19 outbreak (Alert Level 4 in New Zealand's epidemic response process). Due to the pandemic outbreak, the survey design was reviewed, and data collection was postponed till August-September 2020.

MAIN CHANGES

In 2020, the Resident Survey was conducted by SIL Research.

SIL used a multi-layered sampling technique to ensure a proportional spread of respondents from each of four electoral wards, by age and gender distribution.

In 2020, ratings scales were updated from the historical 1-4 scale to a 1-10 scale, which provides more nuanced and robust options for residents to express their views.



Historical scale

The historical 1-4 scale had no options for '*dissatisfied*' responses, whereas the new 1-10 scale provided a wide and balanced range of response options. A less balanced scale can result in higher aggregated scores (when '*positive*' options are combined) compared to a more balanced scale.

Historically, data was collected predominantly by telephone. The 2020 survey introduced a mixed method approach (including telephone, social media, online and postal methods).

DATA COLLECTION

Research was conducted between 06 August and 07 September 2020. Multiple data collection methods were utilised to ensure residents were well-represented. A mixed-methods approach included:

(1) Telephone survey. Respondents were randomly selected from the publicly available telephone directories within specified territorial units;

(2) Social media (available via SIL Research social media platforms, such as Facebook). The invitation advertisement was randomly promoted to District residents within specified territorial units;

(3) Postal survey. 400 survey forms were sent to randomly selected Whakatāne District households within specified territorial units.

A total of n=300 surveys were used in the final analysis.

DATA ANALYSIS

Surveys were conducted proportional to the population in each of Whakatāne District's wards.

Table 1 Response	s by ward	(unweighted)

	Number of responses	Population %
Galatea - Murupara	24	8%
Rangitāiki	79	27%
Tāneatua - Waimana	30	10%
Whakatāne - Ōhope	167	55%

Responses were also statistically weighted (poststratification) to reflect the gender, age and ethnicity group proportions as determined by the Statistics New Zealand 2018 Census. The main analysis was conducted on age groups 18 years or older.

SIL Research ensured quality control during the fieldwork period. In addition, a quality control check was performed using follow-up calls across randomly selected respondents (10% of those who agreed to the follow up) to verify the key responses.

Further checks included, but were not limited to, removal of incomplete responses and responses coming from outside of Whakatāne District.

The main resident groups analysed in this report were: ward, age, gender, ethnicity, home ownership and tenure. During the analysis stage of this report, two sets of statistical testing were employed while reviewing data findings. Chisquare tests were used when comparing group results in tables, and ANOVA tests were used when comparing statement averages across groups. The threshold for reporting any statistically significant differences was a p-value of 0.05. Where differences were outside this threshold (less than 95%), no comments were made; where differences were within this threshold, comments have been made within the context of their practical relevance to WDC.

Overall results are reported with a margin of error at a 95% confidence level.

Table 2 Margin of error

	Reported percentages			
Responses n=	50%	80% or 20%		
300	±5.6	±4.5		
200	±6.9	±5.5		
100	±9.8	±7.8		

The maximum likely error margin occurs when a reported percentage is close to 50%.

NOTES ON REPORTING

Comparative data prior to 2020 is indicative only; data collection methods before 2020 (including response scales) differ significantly from current methods. Due to rounding, figures with percentages may not add to 100%. Reported percentages were calculated on actual results not rounded values.

The term '*Resident*' has been used to represent respondents who participated in the survey. Where results are reported by sub-groups of residents, estimates of results may not be statistically reliable due to the high margins of error (small sample sizes).

Overall 'satisfaction' percentages presented in this report are aggregated 6-10 responses on a 1-10 scale. Satisfaction percentages will differ from mean scores (average ratings). Satisfaction percentages are calculated on positive ratings only, whereas mean scores provide an average of all ratings provided across the whole scale. Mean scores were calculated on responses excluding 'Don't know'.

Satisfaction with Council services and facilities is reported in two ways:

- Total satisfaction percentage for the District (all responses), and
- Satisfaction percentages for 'Users/Visitors' or 'Generally aware' (e.g. residents who had visited/used specific Council services/facilities or knew enough to provide a rating).

Note that historical data is shown for 'Users/Visitors' or 'Generally aware' responses only.

 R^2 is a measure based on regression analysis of results over time. It was applied to the historical and current aggregated satisfaction ratings. In summary, the closer the R^2 number to '1', the more likely a trend towards an increase or decrease in performance ratings.

BENCHMARKING

SIL Research conducts a representative National survey of Councils* to establish a series of benchmarks across a range of Council services. This allows Whakatāne District Council to compare their survey results against a National average.

The National survey data is collected throughout the year so that annual results can be presented without seasonal bias. The benchmarking results in this report are based on n=400 responses collected during summer 2019-20 and winter 2020. The data is collected using a 1-10 scale; satisfaction percentages are aggregated 6-10 ratings.

Benchmarking results are reported at 95% confidence level +/- 4-5%.

*Excludes Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin

In 2020, ratings scales were updated from the historical 1-4 scale to a 1-10 scale, which provides more robust options for residents to express their views and allows for a direct comparison with SIL's New Zealand Benchmarking Survey averages. Also, 2020 survey methodology varied, which explains greater variation in the results compared to historical data.

Environmental factors

When reading this report, it is important to note that factors such as the timing of unusual or one-off events can affect the ratings that residents give, particularly if they occur close to the time when the survey data is being gathered.

Factors that may have influenced public perception of the Council's performance in 2019-2020 include:

1. The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown are likely to have affected public sentiment. COVID-19 has had a major impact on people's lives and some Council services may have been scored lower due to people's feelings of uncertainty about the future.

2. COVID-19 significantly disrupted Council business and service delivery. The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown are likely to have affected residents' ability to visit public facilities and attend events. Many Council facilities were closed throughout lockdown; swimming pools, libraries, halls, playgrounds, park benches, transfer station, rubbish collection, etc. were all closed/on-hold.

3. A volcanic eruption occurred at Whakaari/White Island on the 9th of December 2019. Council worked closely with the New Zealand Police and National Emergency Management to coordinate the multi-agency response and recovery operations. This event had a substantial economic impact for retailers and the local tourism sector. In addition, it disrupted Council business and service delivery.

4. In the period between May and July 2020, there were at least 5 serious crashes (e.g. in Nukuhou, Lake Rotoma, White Pine Bush Road, Galatea, and Te Teko Road) with 4 of these being fatal. This could have affected residents' ratings for roads and road safety.

Satisfaction at a glance – services users/visitors

197		m	Å
Librarias	Cropotorium facility	Evolibition Contro	Sports fields
Libraries	Crematorium facility WDC 2020: 90% / 8.5	Exhibition Centre	WDC 2020: 88% / 7.5
WDC 2020: 95% / 8.4 WDC 2019: 93%	WDC 2020. 90% / 8.5	WDC 2020: 89% / 8.2 WDC 2019: 94%	WDC 2020. 88% / 7.5 WDC 2019: 89%
NZB 2020: 79% / 7.5	NZB 2020: n/a	NZB 2020: n/a	NZB 2020: 77% / 7.3
NZD 2020. 1970 / 1.3		INZD 2020. 11/a	INZD 2020. 7770 / 7.5
	Π	Č,	
Parks or reserves	Waste collection service	Refuse transfer station	Playgrounds
WDC 2020: 87% / 7.6	WDC 2020: 87% / 8.0	WDC 2020: 84% / 7.3	WDC 2020: 82% / 7.2
WDC 2019: 94%	WDC 2019: 91%	WDC 2019: 92%	WDC 2019: 90%
NZB 2020: 79% / 7.2	NZB 2020: 57% / 5.9	NZB 2020: n/a	NZB 2020: n/a
F	50	i Antonio de Calendario de Cal	
Cemeteries	Walking and cycling	Public halls	Sewerage
WDC 2020: 80% / 8.0	WDC 2020: 80% / 7.1	WDC 2020: 78% / 6.9	WDC 2020: 76% / 7.6
WDC 2019: 96%	WDC 2019: 93%	WDC 2019: 82%	WDC 2019: 88%
NZB 2020: 75% / 7.3	NZB 2020: 62% / 6.4	NZB 2020: n/a	NZB 2020: 69% / 6.7
	20	-	$\mathbf{\hat{v}}$
Street lighting	Swimming pools	Water*	Harbour
WDC 2020: 75% / 6.9	WDC 2020: 74% / 6.8	WDC 2020: 71% / 6.9	WDC 2020: 72% / 6.5
WDC 2019: 77%	WDC 2019: 86%	WDC 2019: 81%	WDC 2019: 90%
NZB 2020: 70% / 6.9	NZB 2020: 63% / 6.4	NZB 2020: 64% / 6.5	NZB 2020: n/a
•••	æ	%	
Stormwater	Parking	Tourism promotion	Promote events
WDC 2020: 67% / 6.9	WDC 2020: 66% / 6.6	WDC 2020: 65% / 6.3	WDC 2020: 65% / 6.2
WDC 2019: 75%	WDC 2019: 83%	WDC 2019: 88%	WDC 2019: 88%
NZB 2020: 58% / 6.0	NZB 2020: 52% / 5.6	NZB 2020: n/a	NZB 2020: n/a
六	∱ ∱	<u></u>	X
Footpaths	Public toilets	Museum&Research	Roads overall
WDC 2020: 64% / 6.2	WDC 2020: 64% / 6.3	WDC 2020: 61% / 7.1	WDC 2020: 60% / 6.1
WDC 2019: 74%	WDC 2019: 74%	WDC 2019: 84%	WDC 2019: 82%
NZB 2020: 53% / 5.7	NZB 2020: 58% / 6.0	NZB 2020: n/a	NZB 2020: 45% / 5.1
	নি	6	\bigcirc
Business promotion	Dog control	Noise control**	Overall satisfaction
WDC 2020: 59% / 6.1	WDC 2020: 58% / 5.8	WDC 2020: 31% / 4.9	WDC 2020: 70% / 6.4
WDC 2019: 63%	WDC 2019: 57%	WDC 2019: 66%	WDC 2019: n/a
NZB 2020: n/a	NZB 2020: 61% / 6.4	NZB 2020: n/a	NZB 2020: 59% / 5.8

NZB – SIL's New Zealand Benchmarking Survey

WDC 2019 – WDC's historical results (1-3 scale, service users only)

WDC 2020 - WDC's present results (1-10 scale, service users only)

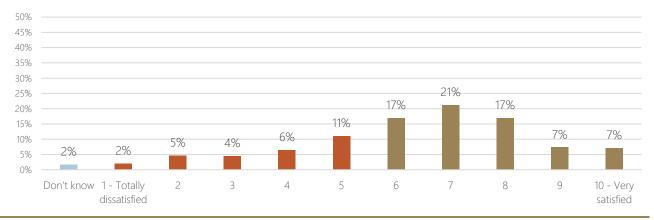
* Average water supply and water quality

** Small sample size

				-	Good performance (70% and above)		
					Services with positive performance (less than 70% It equal or more than 50%)		
				-	Services for improvement		
Satisfaction at a gl	ance (continued)		-	Overall performance indicators		
		2	•				
Managers and staff doing a good job		ing with other s where relevant	Leadership of I	Mayor	Makes it easy to for people to transact with Council		
WDC 2020: 58% / 6.0	WDC	2020: 57% / 5.9	WDC 2020: 57%	6 / 6.0	WDC 2020: 56% / 5.9		
WDC 2019: 56%		DC 2019: n/a	WDC 2019: n/a		WDC 2019: n/a		
NZB 2020: 51% / 5.6	NZB 2	2020: 53% / 5.7	NZB 2020: 53% / 5.6		NZB 2020: n/a		
		e					
Makes it easy for	Skills a	nd expertise to			Provides sufficient		
people to interact and	mana	ge community	Keeps people informed		opportunities for		
engage with them		affairs	5 1 1 1		people to have their say		
WDC 2020: 53% / 5.8	WDC	2020: 53% / 5.6	WDC 2020: 52% / 5.7		WDC 2020: 52% / 5.7		
WDC 2019: n/a	W	DC 2019: n/a	WDC 2019: n/a		WDC 2019: n/a		
NZB 2020: 55% / 5.7	NZB 2	2020: 50% / 5.5	NZB 2020: 56%	5.8	NZB 2020: 55% / 5.8		
				-			
Leadership of Councillors	Efficiency and effectiveness		Strategies for developing prosperity and wellbeing		Continual performance improvement		
WDC 2020: 51% / 5.5	WDC	2020: 50% / 5.4	WDC 2020: 49% / 5.6		WDC 2020: 47% / 5.5		
WDC 2019: n/a		DC 2019: n/a	WDC 2019: n/a		WDC 2019: n/a		
NZB 2020: 49% / 5.4	NZB 2	2020: 47% / 5.2	NZB 2020: 49% / 5.4		NZB 2020: 47% / 5.3		
		\$					
Managing finances well	Valu	ie for money	Trust to make good spending decisions		Listens and acts on the needs of the people		
WDC 2020: 43% / 5.1	WDC	2020: 43% / 5.1	WDC 2020: 42% / 4.9		WDC 2020: 38% / 4.9		
WDC 2019: n/a		DC 2019: n/a	WDC 2019: n/a		WDC 2019: n/a		
NZB 2020: 40% / 5.0	NZB	2020: 41% / 4.9	NZB 2020: 40%	6 / 4.7	NZB 2020: 44% / 5.0		
臝			2	Overall	performance in terms of		
Overall performance managing day-to-day b		Overall performance in terms of communication		leadership (Mayor and Councillors)			
WDC 2020: 55% / 5.	8	WDC 2020	: 49% / 5.5	١	VDC 2020: 52% / 5.7		
WDC 2019: n/a)19: 48%		WDC 2019: 54%		
NZB 2020: 50% / 5.4	4	NZB 2020:	: 54% / 5.5		NZB 2020: 50% / 5.4		

OVERALL SATISFACTION WITH THE COUNCIL

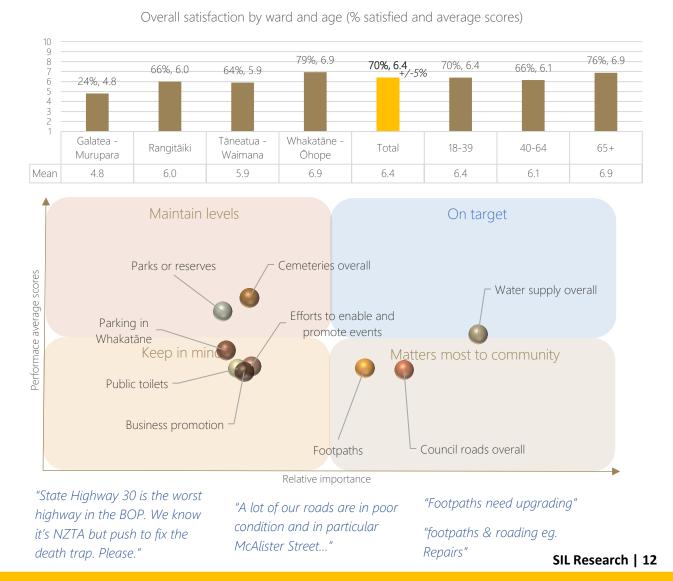
Overall satisfaction with services received from the Whakatāne District Council



•

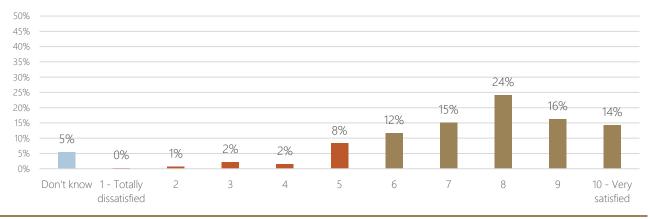
•

- In 2020, 7-in-10 residents (70%) were satisfied with overall services received from the Whakatāne District Council (on average rating 6.4 out of 10).
- Satisfaction differed significantly by area; fewer residents from Galatea-Murupara ward were satisfied with Council's services.
- Out of all services surveyed, 9 showed a statistically significant contribution towards overall satisfaction.
- Assessing relative importance against measured performance of these 9 services, roads and footpaths represented the largest improvement potential.



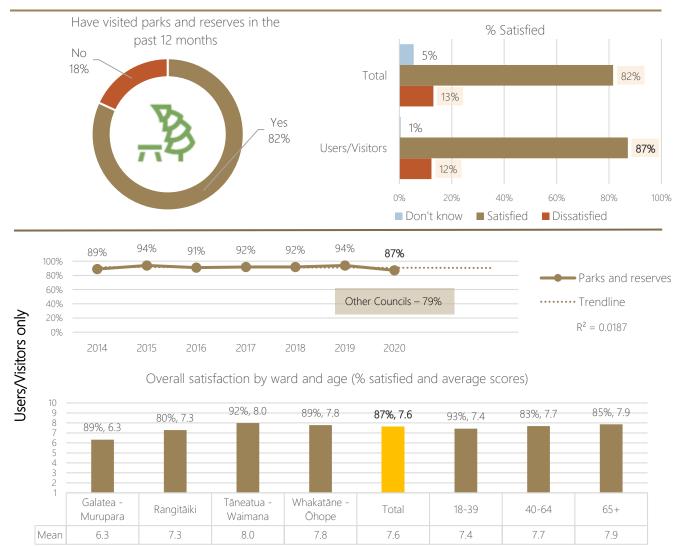
n=299. Priority assessment is based on statistical modelling (regression analysis).

Parks and reserves



•

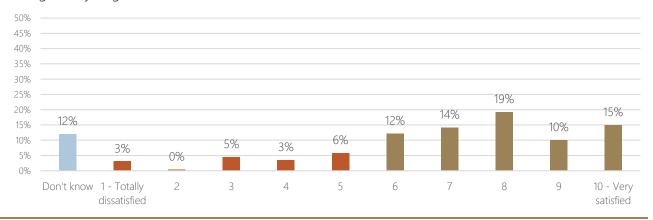
- In 2020, 82% of residents stated they had visited parks or reserves in the past 12 months (88% in 2019).
- There were no significant differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.
- 87% of these residents were satisfied with their parks or reserves (94% in 2019).
- There have been no noticeable differences over time in satisfaction related to parks and reserves among visitors.



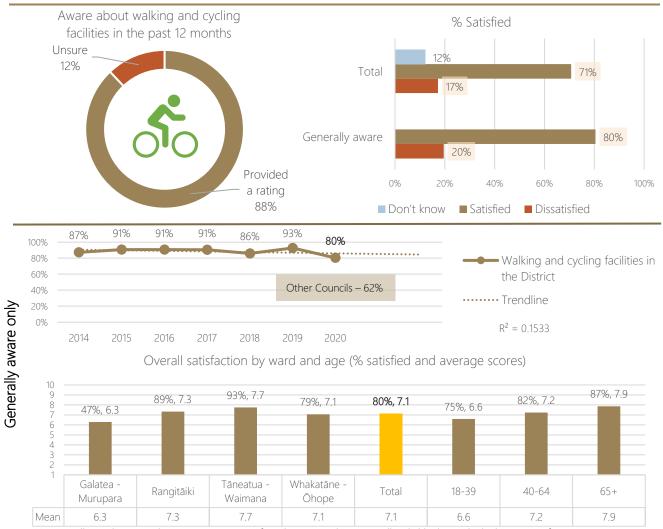
Note: small sample sizes within groups, estimates of results may not be statistically reliable due to the high margins of error

n=299 (users/visitors n=245).

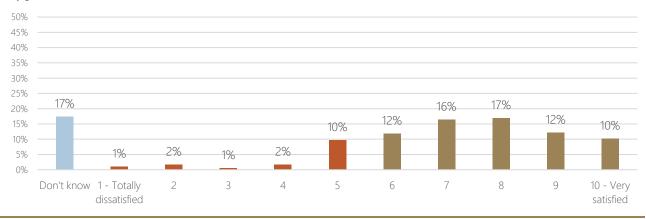
Walking and cycling facilities in the District



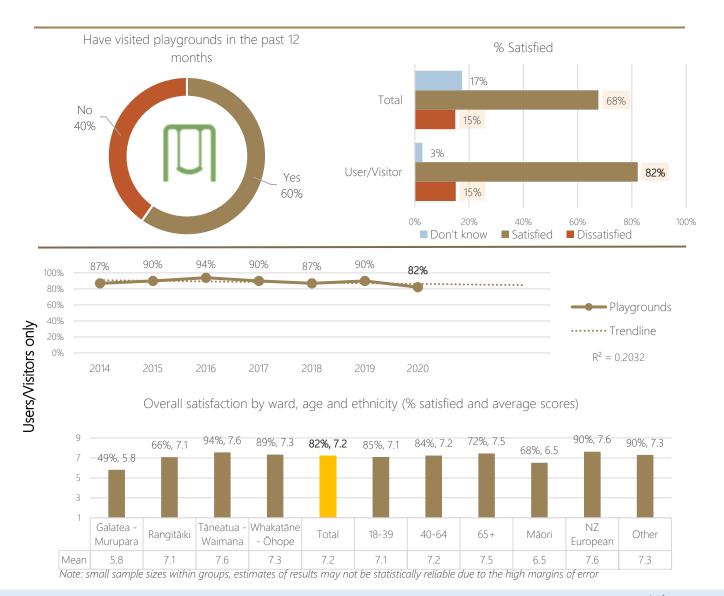
- Overall, 80% of residents who provided a rating were satisfied with walking and cycling facilities in the District (on average 7.1 out of 10).
- Younger residents aged 18-39 were less satisfied with the provision of walking and cycling facilities in the District (on average 6.6 out of 10).
- Although the 2020 result was down compared to 2019 (93%), it was similar to the 2018 survey.
- Noticeably, fewer Galatea-Murupara residents were satisfied with walking and cycling facilities.



Playgrounds

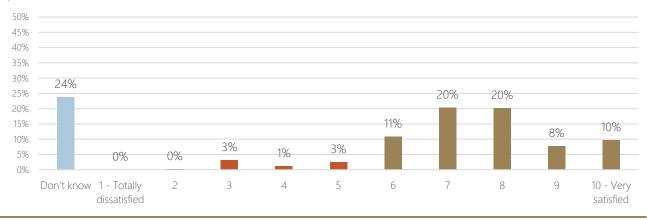


- In 2020, 60% of residents stated they had visited a playground (similar to 69% in 2019).
- 82% of these residents were satisfied with playgrounds in the District (90% in 2019).
- Fewer residents from Galatea-Murupara ward were satisfied with their playgrounds, although the small sample size should be taken into account.
- Māori residents, on average, provided lower ratings in relation to playgrounds.



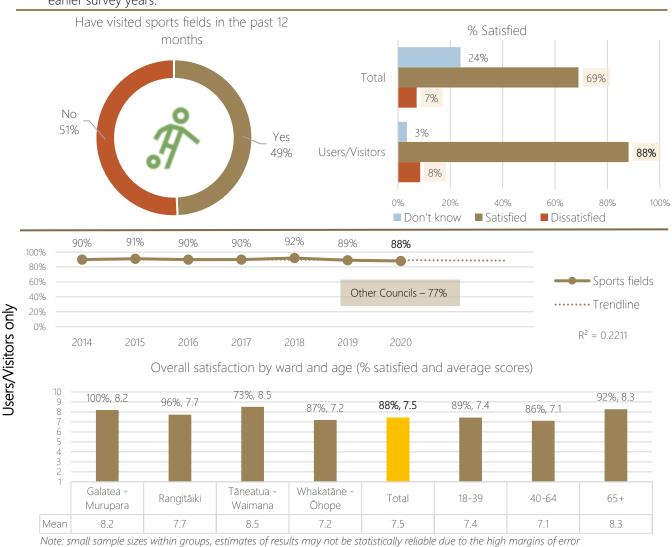
n=300 (users/visitors n=179).

Sports fields



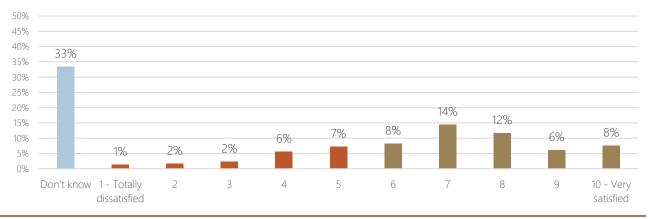
- In 2020, half of residents (49%) reported visiting sports fields in the past 12 months (down compared to 68% in 2019). However, sports field usage could have been affected by COVID-19 restrictions.
- Satisfaction with sport fields has remained consistently high in 2020 (88%) compared to earlier survey years.

• With statistical significance, residents from Galatea-Murupara (8.2) and Tāneatua-Waimana (8.5), and residents aged 65+ (8.3), tended to provide higher average ratings in relation to sports fields.

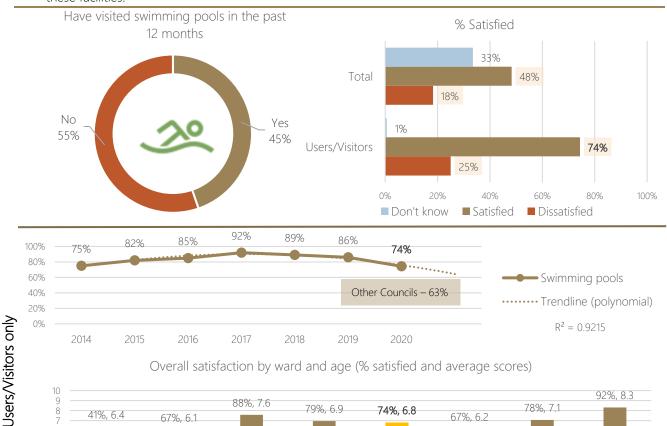


Note: some changes in 2020 as a result of differences in scale, data collection methods and analysis

Public swimming pools

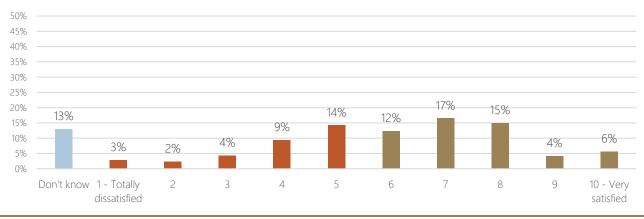


- In 2020, 45% of residents reported using public swimming pools in the past 12 months (down compared to 56% in 2019). Similar to sports fields, usage of these facilities could have been affected by COVID-19.
- There has been no linear trend over time but rather a polynomial curve, rising through to 2017 and declining thereafter.
- 74% of swimming pool visitors were satisfied with these facilities.
- Satisfaction with swimming pools changed with age; younger residents were, on average, the least satisfied (6.2 out of 10).



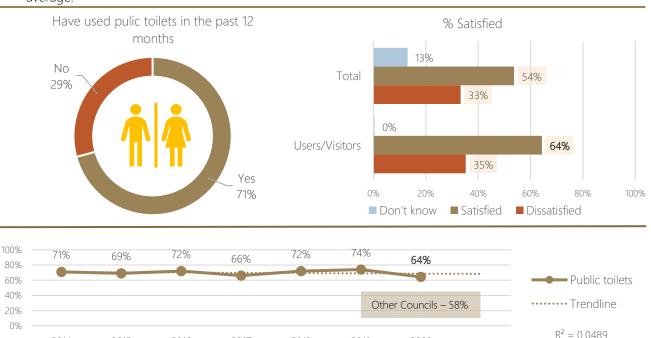
9 - 8 - 7 - 5 - 4 - 3 -	41%, 6.4	67%, 6.1	88%, 7.6	79%, 6.9	74%, 6.8	67%, 6.2	78%, 7.1	92%, 8.
2 -	Galatea - Murupara	Rangitāiki	Tāneatua - Waimana	Whakatāne - Ōhope	Total	18-39	40-64	65+
							7.1	

Public toilets



٠

- 7-in-10 residents (71%) reported using a public toilet in the District in the past 12 months (similar to 77% in 2019).
- Around two-thirds (64%) of these residents were satisfied with public toilets. This result was down compared to 2019 (74%) but on par with the historical average.
- There were no significant differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.



Overall satisfaction by ward and age (% satisfied and average scores)

2019

2020

2018

8 - 7 - 6 - 5 - 3 -	82%, 7.5	60%, 6.1	65%, 6.4	65%, 6.3	64%, 6.3	70%, 6.5	59%, 6.0	67%, 6.6
2 -	Galatea - Murupara	Rangitāiki	Tāneatua - Waimana	Whakatāne - Ōhope	Total	18-39	40-64	65+

Note: small sample sizes within groups, estimates of results may not be statistically reliable due to the high margins of error

2017

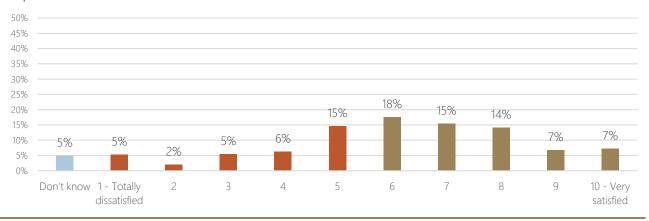
2014

2015

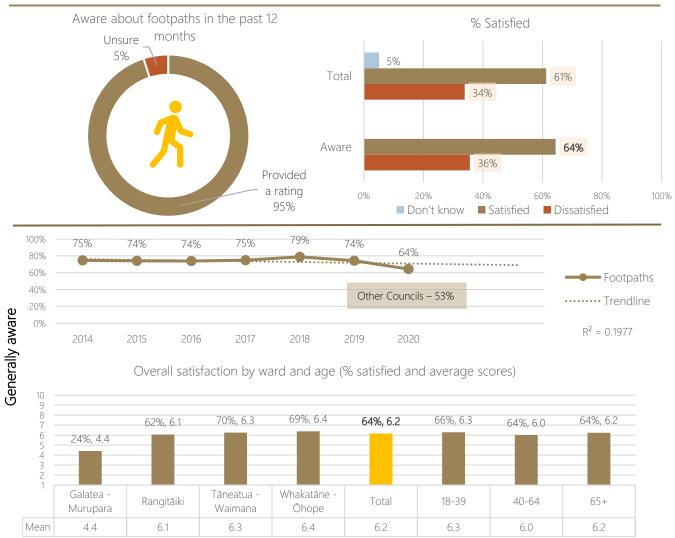
2016

Users/Visitors only

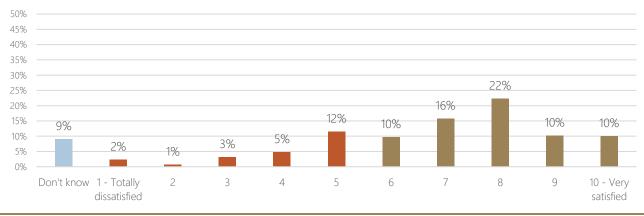
Footpaths



- 64% of residents who provided a rating were satisfied with footpaths in the District. This was below the result reported in 2019 (74%).
- Ratings for footpaths made a significant contribution to overall satisfaction with Council's performance.
- Galatea-Murupara residents were significantly less satisfied (on average 4.4 out of 10) with footpaths.
- In addition, 34% of residents suggested footpaths as an area for the Council to spend more (41% in Whakatāne-Ōhope).

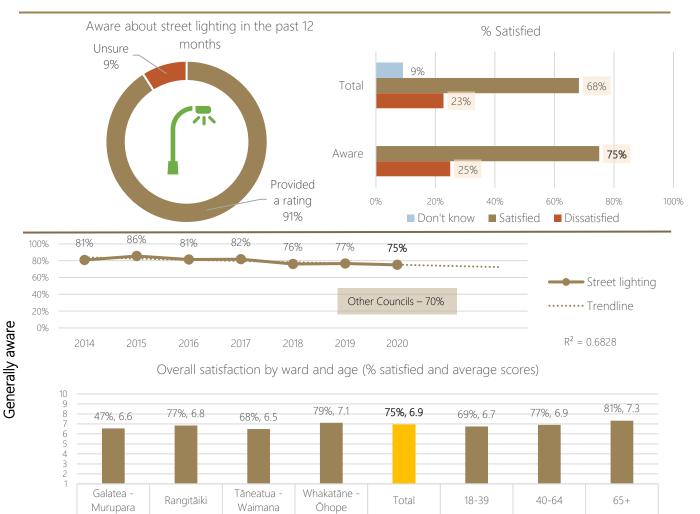


Street lighting



- 75% of residents who provided a rating were satisfied with street lighting.
- Satisfaction with street lighting was on par with the 2019 results (77%).

• There were no significant differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.

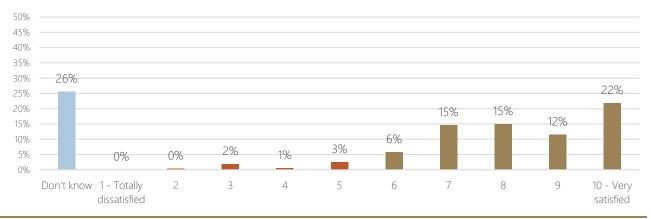


 Mean
 6.6
 6.8
 6.5
 7.1
 6.9
 6.7
 6.9

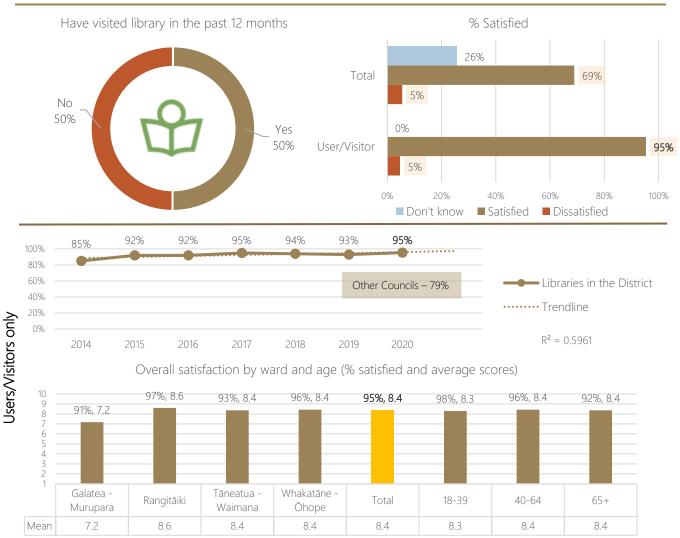
 Note: small sample sizes within groups, estimates of results may not be statistically reliable due to the high margins of error

7.3

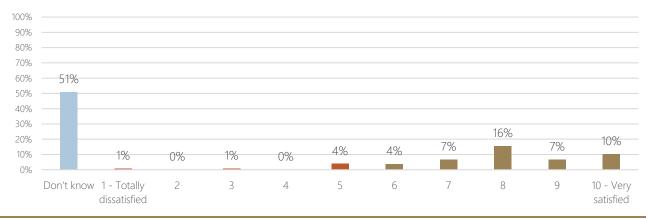
Libraries in the District



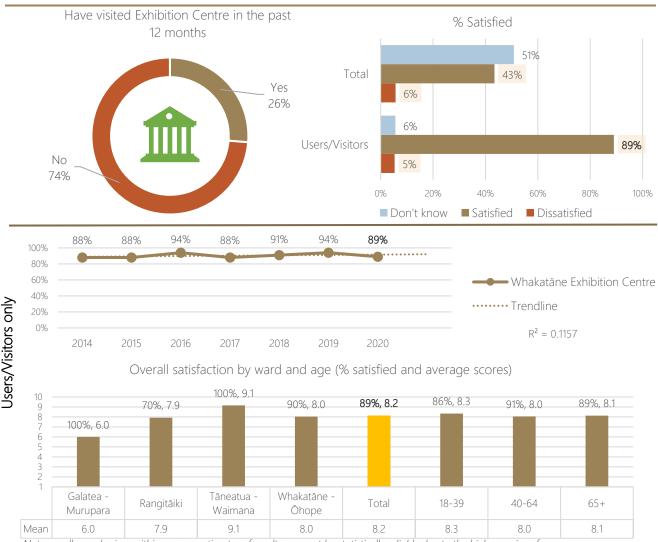
- Half of residents (50%) reported visiting District libraries in the past 12 months (down compared to 71% in 2019).
- Of all services measured in 2020, public libraries achieved the highest satisfaction and on par with 2019 (93%).
- The majority of residents who visited libraries were satisfied with this service (95%).
- Satisfaction levels were similar between wards or residents' demographic groups.



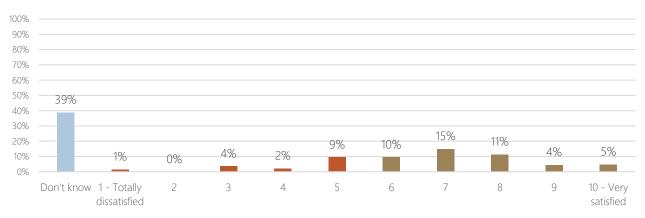
Whakatāne Exhibition Centre



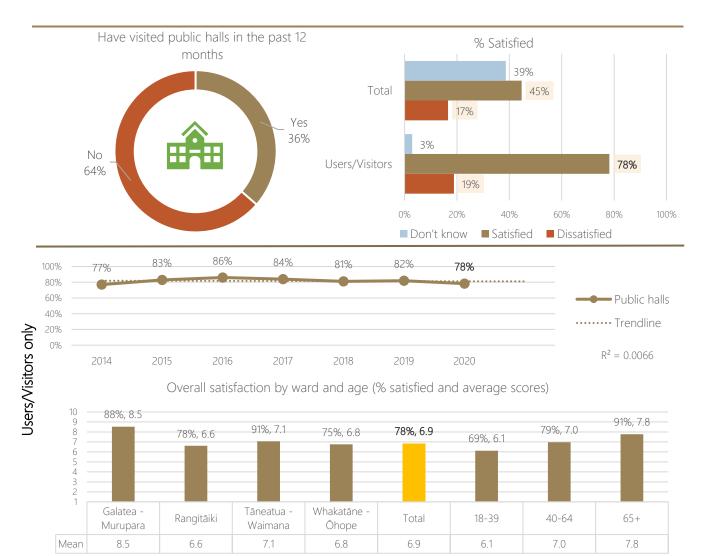
- A large percentage (51%) of residents were unable to comment about the Whakatāne Exhibition Centre (e.g. '*Don't know*' responses).
- Nevertheless, 89% of residents who had visited the Whakatāne Exhibition Centre were satisfied. This result was similar to 2019.
- This corresponded with the lower number of residents who reported visiting this facility (26%, down compared to 52% in 2019).
- There were no significant differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.



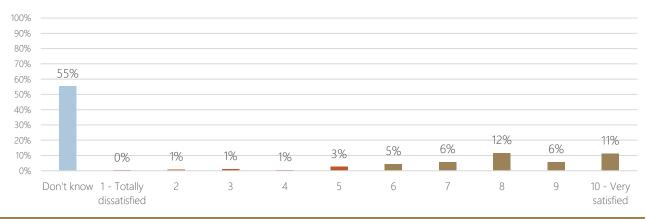
Public halls



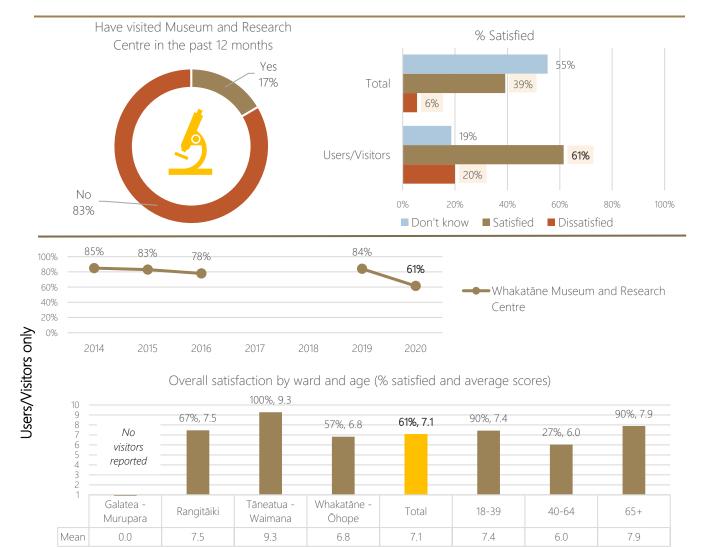
- As with the Whakatāne Exhibition Centre, fewer residents could rate public halls in the district; just 36% reported visiting one in the past 12 months (down compared to 64% in 2019).
- However, 78% of residents who had visited public halls were satisfied with these facilities (similar to 2019).
- Older residents (65+) were more likely to be satisfied with these facilities.



Whakatāne Museum and Research Centre



- Overall, only 1-in-5 residents (17%) reported visiting Whakatāne Museum and Research Centre (similar to 17% in 2019).
- There were no significant differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.
- 61% of these visitors were satisfied with this facility; however, a greater margin of error should be taken into account.

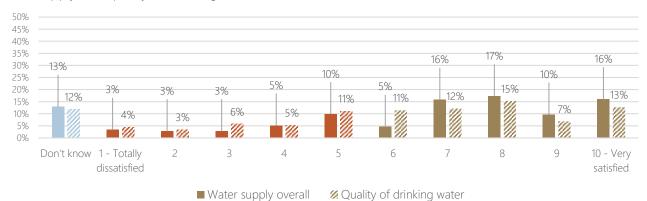


Note: small sample sizes within groups, estimates of results may not be statistically reliable due to the high margins of error

Note: some changes in 2020 as a result of differences in scale, data collection methods and analysis

n=300 (users/visitors n=50). NOTE: small sample size (of users/visitors), the margin of error is +/- 13.5%.

Water supply and quality of drinking water



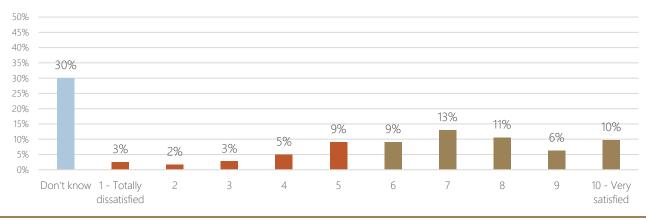
- 78% of residents reported being connected to Council's water supply in 2020 (similar to 81% in 2019).
- Of those residents on Council's water provision, 73% were satisfied with the supply overall and 68% were satisfied with quality of their drinking water.

• There were no significant differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.

 Although satisfaction with water quality has been consistent over time, satisfaction with water supply was down compared to 2019 (89%).

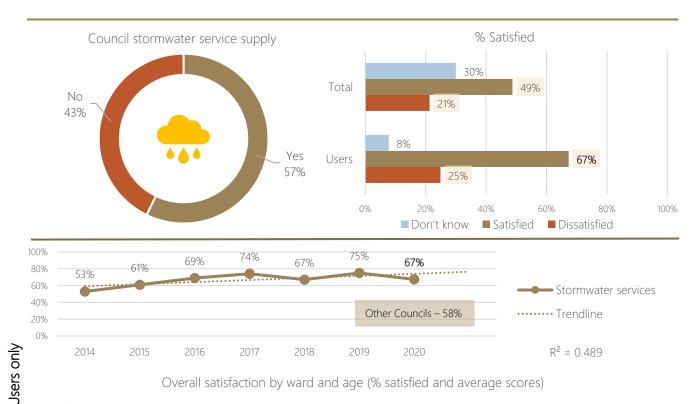


Stormwater service



- In 2020, 57% of surveyed residents stated they were on Council's stormwater service network, and 67% of these residents were satisfied with this service.
- On average, residents with a rented property (7.6) were more likely to provide higher ratings than home-owners.
- Although this satisfaction level was below the 2019 result (75%), it was similar to 2018 (67%).





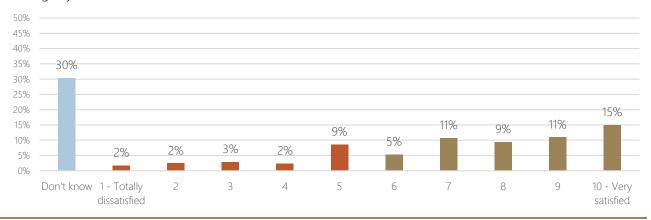
10 9 8 7 77%, 7.2 71%, 7.0 63%, 7.1 39%, 6.8 67%, 6.9 60%, 6.4 60%, 6.4 66%, 6.6 6 5 4 3 Whakatāne -Galatea · Tāneatua -Rangitāiki Total 18-39 40-64 65+ Murupara Waimana Ōhope 7.2 Mean 6.4 6.4 6.8 7.0 6.9 7.1 6.6

Sewerage system

Mean

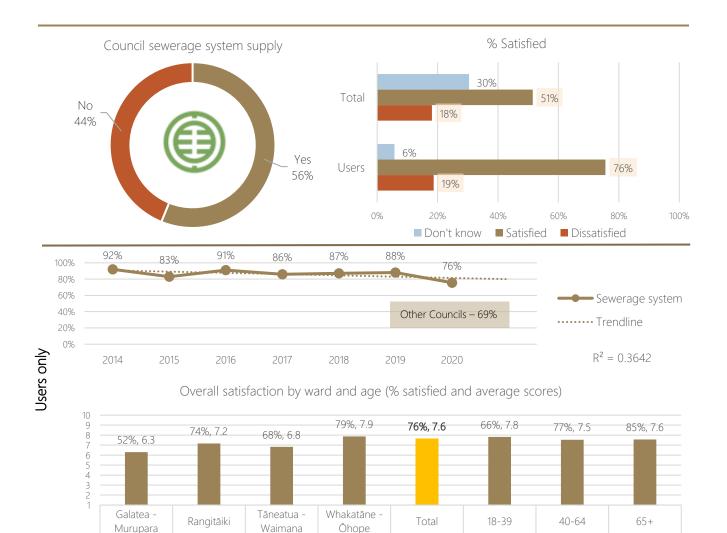
n=300 (users n=168)

6.3



•

- Similar to stormwater, 56% of surveyed residents reported being provided with sewerage services (68% in 2019).
- 76% of these residents were satisfied with the sewerage system.
- Residents from Galatea-Murupara (6.3) and Tāneatua-Waimana (6.8) wards provided lower ratings, on average, compared to the other two wards.



Note: small sample sizes within groups, estimates of results may not be statistically reliable due to the high margins of error

7.9

7.6

7.8

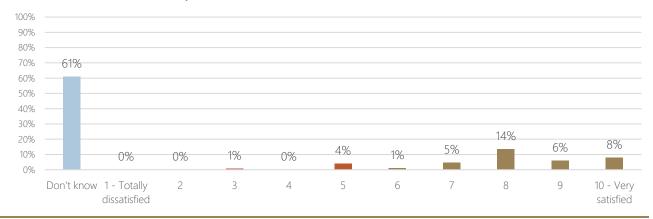
7.5

6.8

7.2

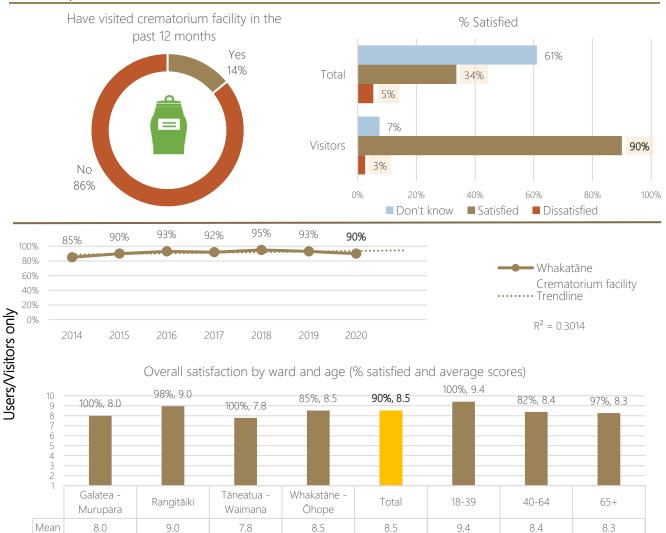
7.6

Whakatāne crematorium facility



- 6-in-10 residents were unfamiliar with the Whakatāne crematorium facility in 2020 (43% in 2019).
- Only 14% of residents reported visiting the crematorium in Whakatāne District (29% in 2019), and 90% of these residents were satisfied with this facility (similar to 93% in 2019).

• There were no significant differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.

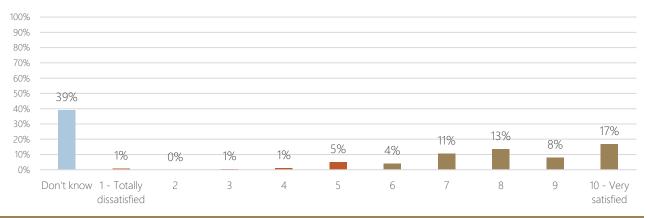


Note: small sample sizes within groups, estimates of results may not be statistically reliable due to the high margins of error

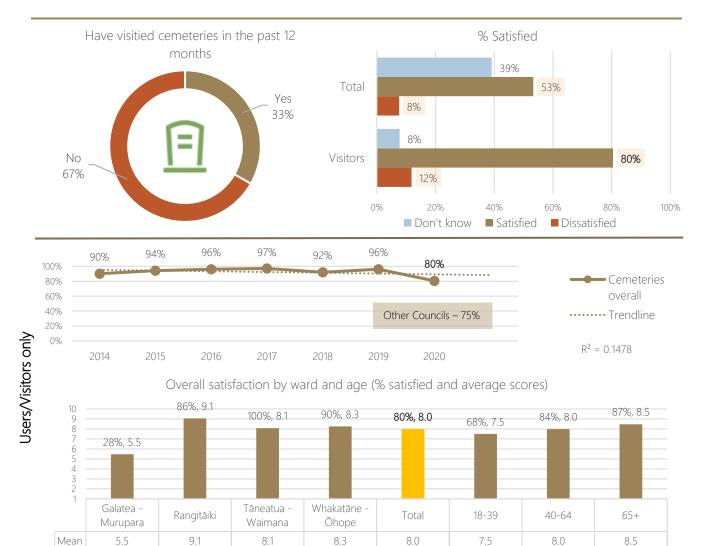
Note: some changes in 2020 as a result of differences in scale, data collection methods and analysis

n=300 (users/visitors n=42). NOTE: small sample size (of users/visitors), the margin of error is +/- 9.1%.

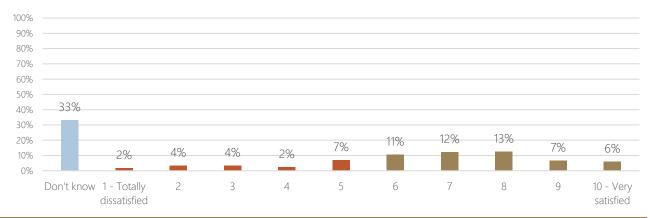
Cemeteries overall



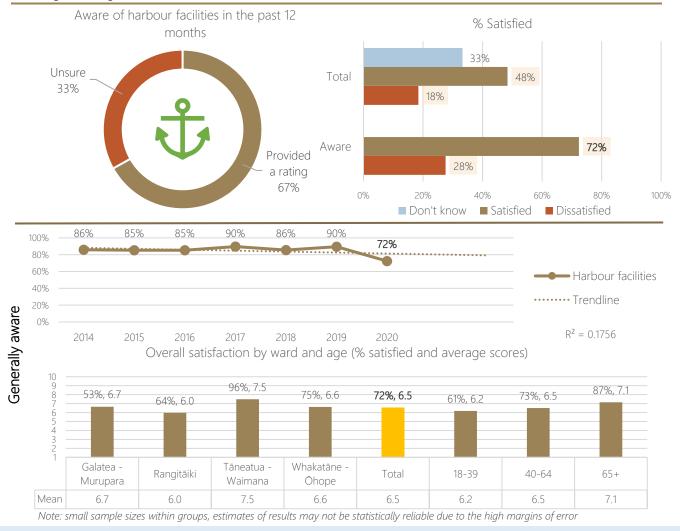
- In 2020, one-third of residents (33%) reported visiting a cemetery in the District in the past 12 months (62% in 2019).
- With statistical significance, residents from Galatea-Murupara ward tended to provide lower ratings (5.5 out of 10), on average, compared to the rest of the District.
- 80% of these residents were satisfied with cemeteries overall (down compared to 96% in 2019).



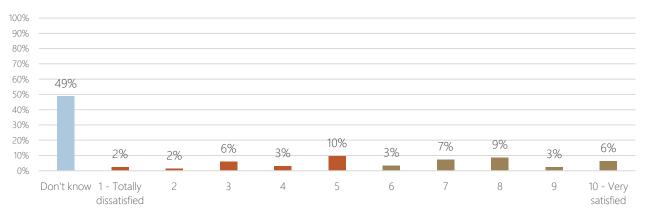
Harbour facilities



- In 2020, one-third of residents were unsure about harbour facilities in the District, with only 67% providing a rating.
- 72% of residents who were generally aware of harbour facilities were satisfied (down compared to 90% in 2019).
- Residents who had lived longer in the District (2 years and above) were more likely to provide higher ratings (6.9 out of 10).
- Male residents tended to provide lower ratings (6.1), on average, compared to female residents (7.0).
- Residents from Whakatāne-Ōhope ward were more likely to name harbour facilities as an area where Council could spend more (40%).

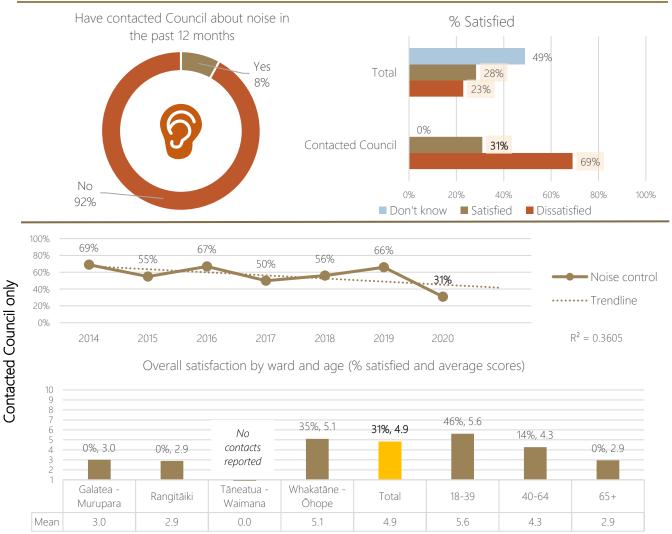


Noise control



- Historically, the number of residents contacting the Council about noise have been low. In 2020, just 8% of residents contacted the Council about noise control (similar to 11% in 2019).
- 31% of these residents were satisfied with the noise control. Although this result was below 66% in 2019, a greater margin of error is expected with lower sample sizes.

• There were no noticeable differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.

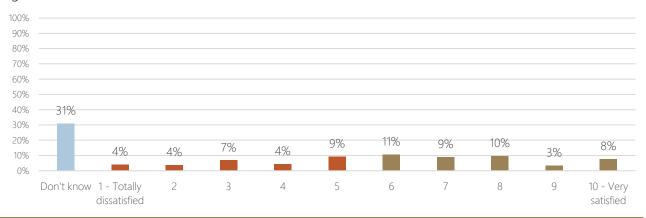


Note: some changes in 2020 as a result of differences in scale, data collection methods and analysis

SIL Research | 31

n=300 (contacted Council n=24). NOTE: small sample size (contacted Council), the margin of error is +/- 18.5%.

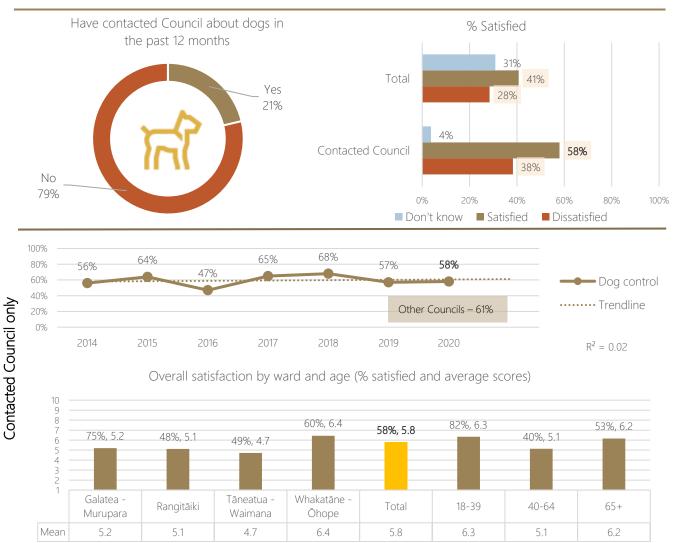
Dog control



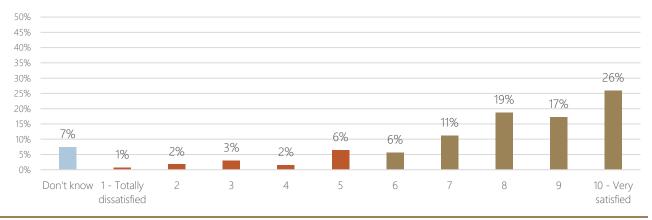
•

- In 2020, 1-in-5 residents (21%) reported contacting the Council about dogs in the past 12 months (similar to 23% in 2019).
- 58% of residents who reported contacting the Council about dogs were satisfied with this service (similar to 57% in 2019).

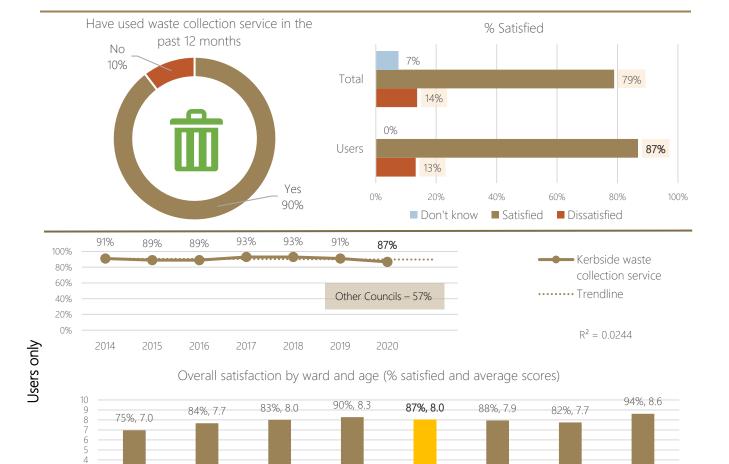
There were no significant differences between wards or residents' demographic groups.



Kerbside waste collection service



- The majority of surveyed residents (90%) reported receiving regular kerbside waste collection (similar to 96% in 2019).
- On average, residents from Whakatāne-Ōhope (8.3) ward, and older residents aged 65+ (8.6), were more likely to provide higher ratings.
- 87% of these residents were satisfied with this service (similar to 91% in 2019).



Galatea -Whakatāne -Tāneatua -Rangitāiki Total 18-39 40-64 Murupara Ōhope Waimana Mean 7.0 7.7 8.0 8.3 80 79 7.7

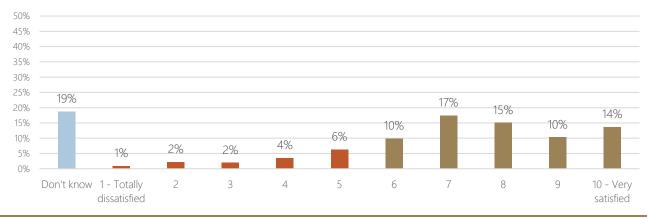
Note: small sample sizes within groups, estimates of results may not be statistically reliable due to the high margins of error

65+

8.6

3

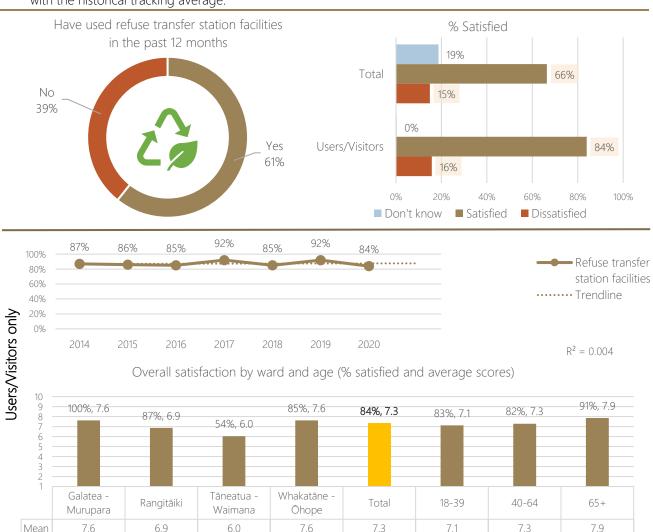
Refuse transfer station facilities



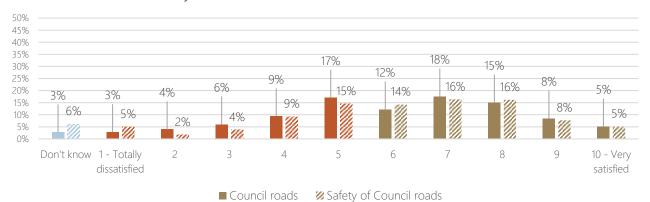
•

- In 2020, 61% of residents reported using the refuse transfer station facilities in the District (70% in 2019).
- 84% of residents who had used the facility were satisfied with it. Although this satisfaction was lower compared to 2019 (92%), it was still on par with the historical tracking average.

On average, residents from Whakatāne-Ōhope (7.6) and Galatea-Murupara (7.6) ward tended to provide higher ratings.



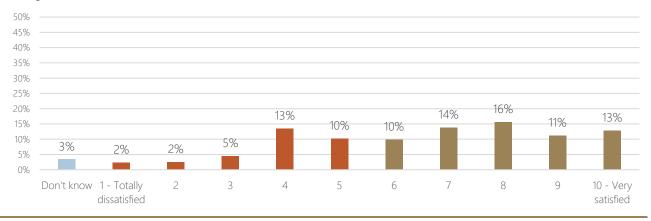
Council roads overall and safety of Council roads



- Overall, satisfaction with Council roads (60%) and safety of these roads (63%) was lower in 2020 compared to 82% in 2019.
- On average, residents outside of Whakatāne– Öhope ward were less satisfied with roads providing lower ratings.
- As with footpaths, roads made a significant contribution to overall satisfaction with Council's performance, and represented greater improvement potential.
- It was the third most mentioned spending priority in 2020 (39%).



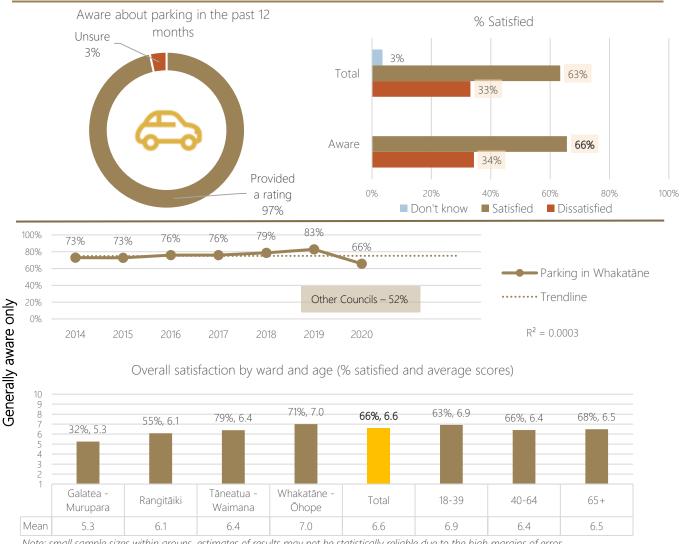
Parking in Whakatāne



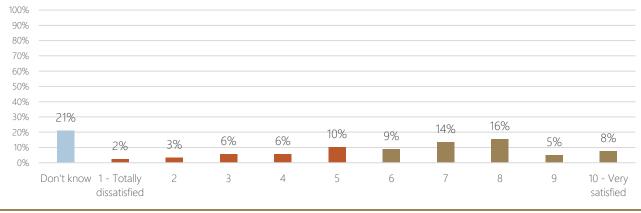
•

In 2020, satisfaction with parking in Whakatāne District (66%) was down compared to 2019 results (83%).

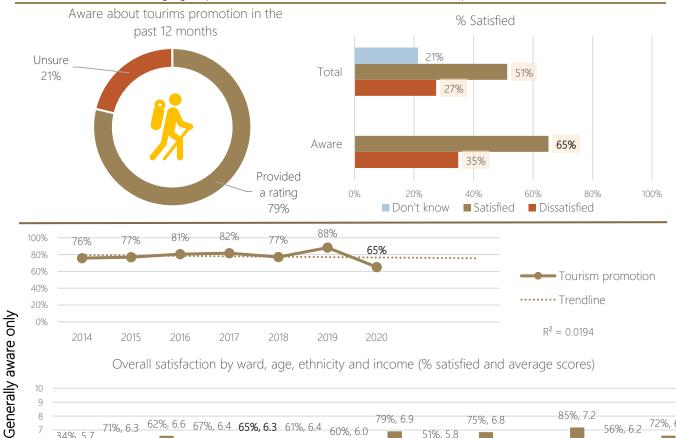
On average, residents from Whakatāne-Ōhope ward (7.0) provided the highest ratings, whereas fewer Galatea-Murupara residents (5.3) were satisfied with parking in their area.

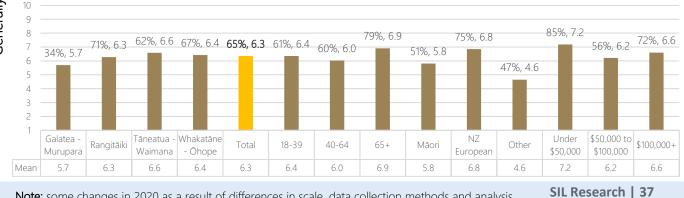


Tourism promotion

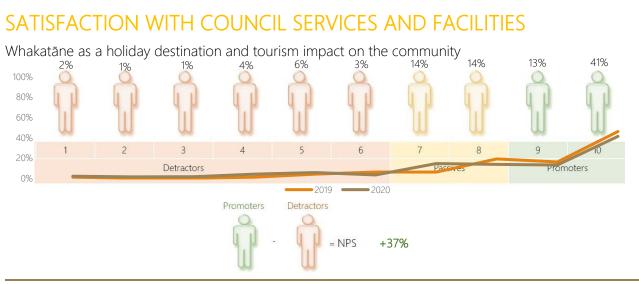


- In 2020, 79% of residents provided a rating in relation to Council's support of tourism promotion, and two-thirds of these residents were satisfied with this (65%).
- Residents with an aggregated income under \$50,000, and NZ European, were more likely to provide higher ratings.
- This result was down compared to 88% in 2019.
- There were no significant differences between wards or residents' age groups.
- Perceptions of tourism promotion may have been affected by the national lockdown (and subsequent New Zealand restriction) and the 2019 Whakaari / White Island eruption.





Note: some changes in 2020 as a result of differences in scale, data collection methods and analysis n=298 (users/visitors n=235).



- Overall, residents were very likely to recommend Whakatāne District as a holiday destination; more than half (54%) of provided ratings were top scores of 9 and 10. The anecdotal NPS* was highly positive at +37%, which was greater than recommendation for the Whakatāne District as a place to live (+0.3%).
- Residents from Tāneatua-Waimana and Whakatāne-Ōhope wards were more likely to provide positive (6 and above) ratings.
- 79% of residents in the Whakatāne District believed that tourism has a positive impact on the community (similar to 82% in 2019).



.

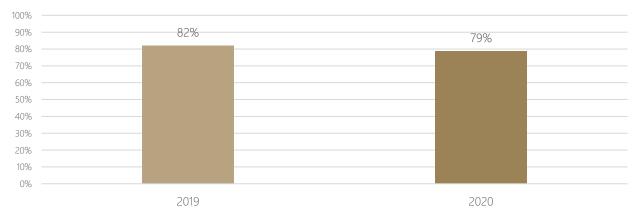
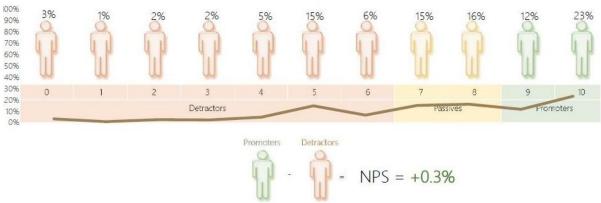


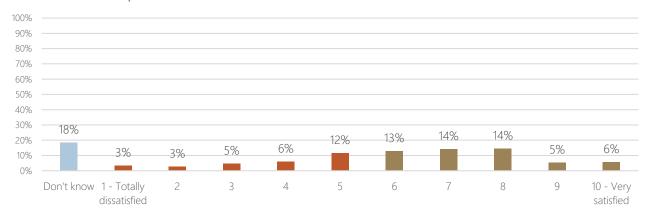
Figure 1 Anecdotal comparison to the 2020 Wellbeing Survey

Likelihood of recommending the Whakatāne District as a place to live



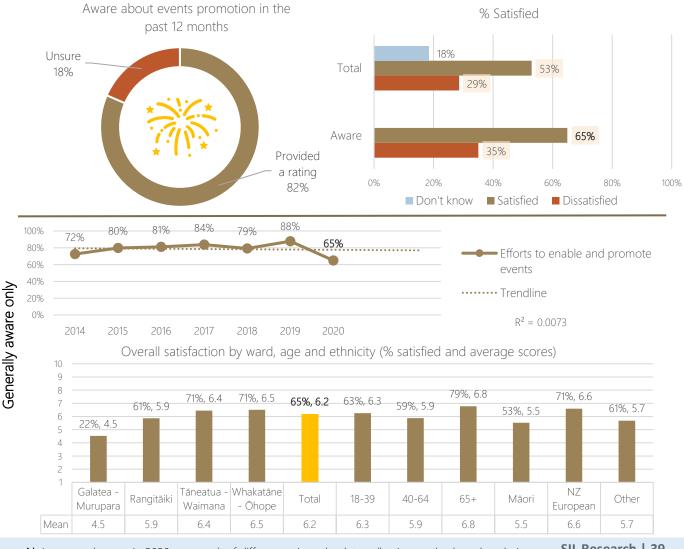
n=300. Note: question used a 1-10 Likert scale (to remain consistent with the 2019 survey). *Comparison to Net Promoter Score metric is anecdotal only; NPS tool uses a 0-10 scale (excluding '*Don't know*' responses).

Efforts to enable and promote events



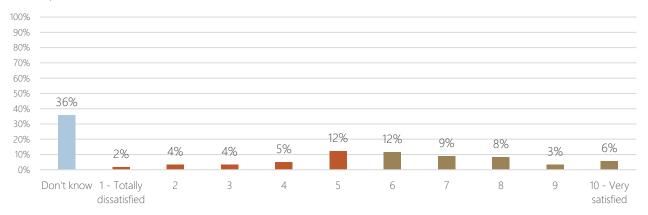
•

- In 2020, 82% of residents provided a rating in relation to Council's efforts to enable and promote events, and 18% were unsure.
- Two-thirds of residents (65%) who provided a rating were satisfied with this activity (88% in 2019).
- Residents from Tāneatua-Waimana (6.4) and Whakatāne-Ōhope (6.5) wards were more likely to feel positive about Council's efforts to enable and promote events. Māori residents, on average, provided lower ratings.
- Perceptions of event promotion may have been affected by the national lockdown and subsequent restrictions on large gatherings and event.

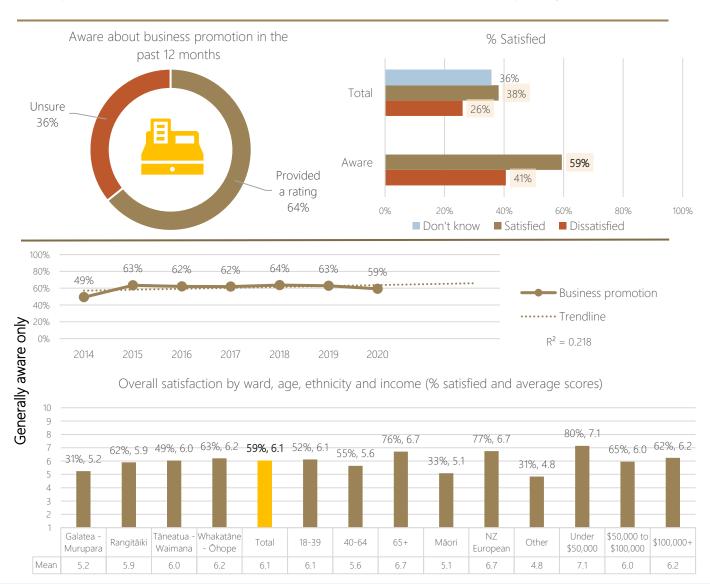


Note: some changes in 2020 as a result of differences in scale, data collection methods and analysis

Business promotion



- Overall, around one-third of residents were unfamiliar with Council's actions to promote businesses in the District (36%).
- 59% of residents who provided a rating were satisfied with Council's efforts to attract and expand businesses (similar to 63% in 2019).
- Older residents aged 65+, residents with an aggregated income \$50,000 and under, and NZ European, were more likely to provide higher ratings.
- This was the service area residents considered most in need of more Council spending.



Note: some changes in 2020 as a result of differences in scale, data collection methods and analysis

SIL Research | 40

n=295 (aware n=190)

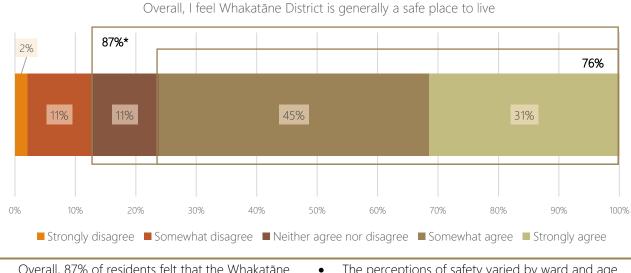
Spending priorities

Attracting and expanding business	14%	40%	43%
Water supply	3%	48%	42%
Council's roads	6%	54%	39%
Public toilets	3%	55%	38%
Walking and cycling facilities	12%	46%	38%
Promoting the District to attract visitors or tourists	16%	44%	35%
Taking action on climate change	24%	37%	34%
Harbour facilities	16%	40%	34%
Promoting events	12%	50%	34%
Footpaths	4%	59%	34%
Stormwater services	1%	61%	28%
Parking in Whakatāne	15%	53%	28%
Sewerage system	1%	59%	27%
Playgrounds	4%	70%	22%
Whakatāne Airport	15%	53%	22%
Street lighting	4%	71%	21%
Parks and reserves	5%	73%	19%
Public swimming pools	9%	64%	19%
Dog control	9%	65%	19%
Kerbside waste collection service	2%	79%	16%
District libraries	18%	60%	16%
Sports fields	7%	74%	13%
Noise control	13%	60%	13%
Public halls	14%	65%	11%
	0% 10% 20%	30% 40% 50% 60'	
	Less About th	e same 🔳 More	

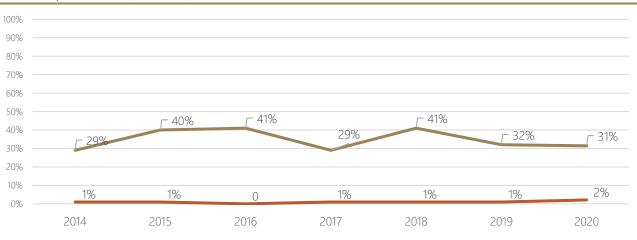
- In 2020, residents were asked which services/facilities they would like to see more, about the same or less Council funds spent.
- The top-two identified areas for more spending were business promotion (43% said 'more') and water supply (42%), followed closely by roads (39%), toilets (38%), and walking and cycling facilities (38%).
- An additional n=101 residents provided 'Other' suggestions, the most mentioned being 'Roads/Bridge/Infrastructure', at 30%.
- Residents from Galatea-Murupara (44%), Rangitāiki (48%) and Tāneatua-Waimana (49%) wards were more likely to name roads as an area where Council could spend more.
- Street lighting (43%), dog control (41%) and noise control (36%) were considered greater spending priorities in Galatea-Murupara ward.
- One-quarter of residents (24%) stated that 'Taking action on climate change' should receive less Council's investment. However, 34% believed this needs more funding.

SAFETY

Perception of safety in the District



- Overall, 87% of residents felt that the Whakatāne District is generally a safe place to live, to some extent; 31% strongly agreed they feel safe (32% in 2019).
- The perceptions of safety varied by ward and age.Older residents aged 65+ were more likely to
- agree the District is a safe place to live (85%).
- Only 2% of residents strongly disagreed this was a safe place to live (1% in 2019).
- Fewer Galatea-Murupara residents (6%) found it unsafe to live.



-% strongly disagree Whakatāne District is generally a safe place to live

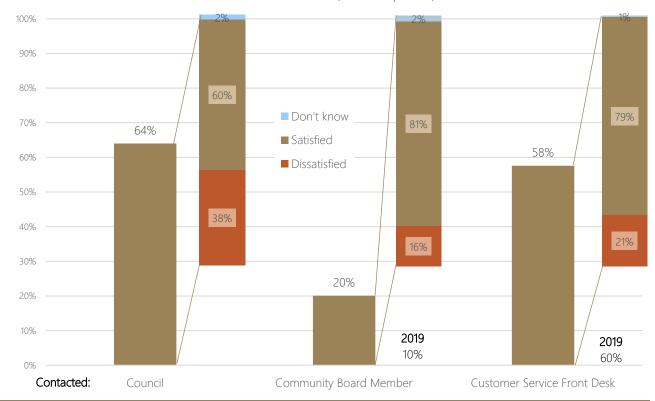
Ward	%Disagree	%In the middle	%Agree
Galatea - Murupara	6%	25%	69%
Rangitāiki	16%	17%	67%
Tāneatua - Waimana	12%	3%	86%
Whakatāne - Ōhope	12%	8%	80%

Age	%Disagree	%Disagree %In the middle	
18-39	19%	6%	75%
40-64	10%	18%	73%
65+	9%	6%	85%

SIL Research | 42

CONTACT WITH COUNCIL

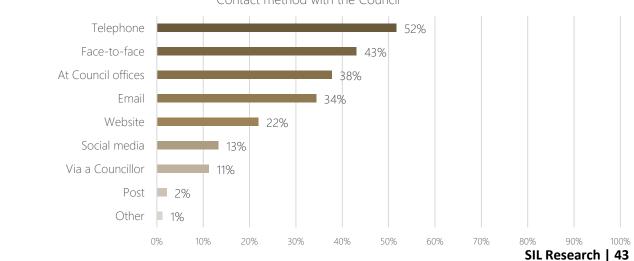
Contacted the Council, a community board member or customer service front desk in the past 12 months



•

Direct contact with (% Yes responses)

- Overall, almost two-thirds of residents (64%) stated they had contacted the Council in the past 12 months. The top-two contact methods were '*Telephone*' (52%) and '*Face-to-face*' (43%).
- Homeowners were more likely to contact the Council (67%) than were renters (37%). Younger residents (18-39) preferred to contact the Council by email (55%).
- 60% of residents who had contacted the Council were satisfied with this contact. Whakatāne-Õhope residents were most likely to be satisfied (68%)
- 20% of residents reported contacting a Community Board Member (10% in 2019), and 58% had contacted the customer service front desk (60% in 2019).
- Tāneatua-Waimana residents were more likely to contact a Community Board Member (49%), and Whakatāne-Ōhope residents (65%) were more likely to contact customer services.
- 8-in-10 residents were satisfied with their contact with a Board Member (81%) and customer service (79%).

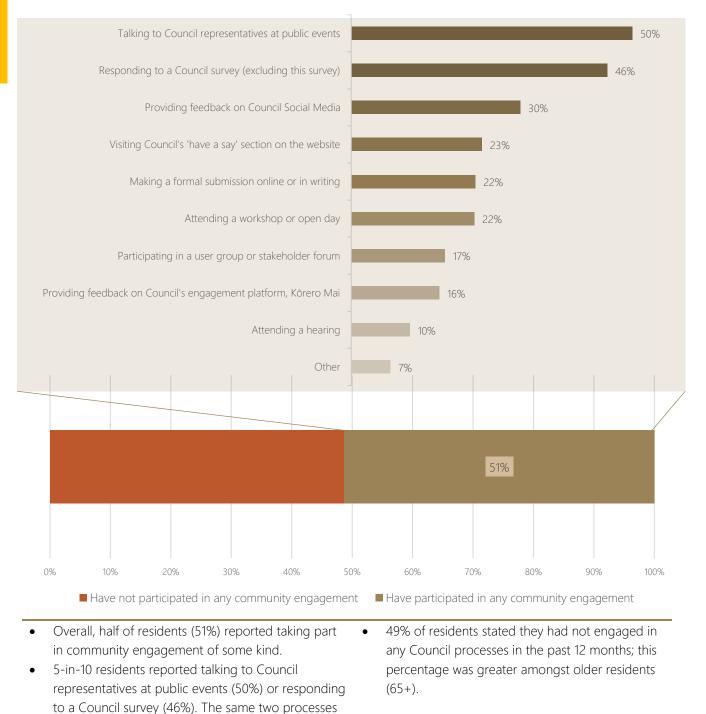


Contact method with the Council*

COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

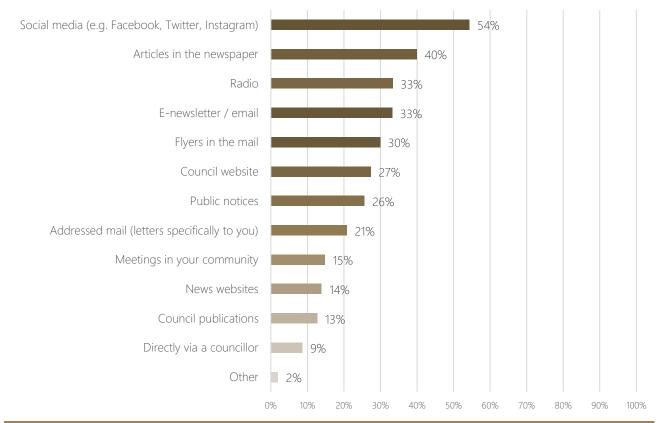
Community engagement

were most mentioned in 2019.

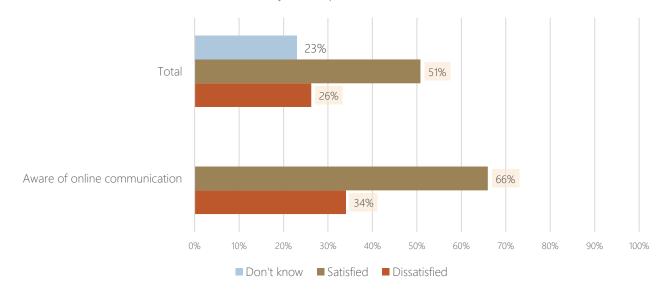


COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Preferred method of communication



- In 2020, 'Social media' was the top cited method of Council communication; 54% of residents preferred this method.
- This was by far the preferred method (81%) amongst younger residents (18-39).
- Residents aged 65+ preferred traditional media including 'Articles in the newspaper' (59%) and 'Flyers' (42%).
- 66% of residents who had been aware of online communications from Council were satisfied with provision of online services and information (73% in 2019).
- Younger residents, and residents from Whakatāne
 –Õhope, were more likely to be satisfied with online services.

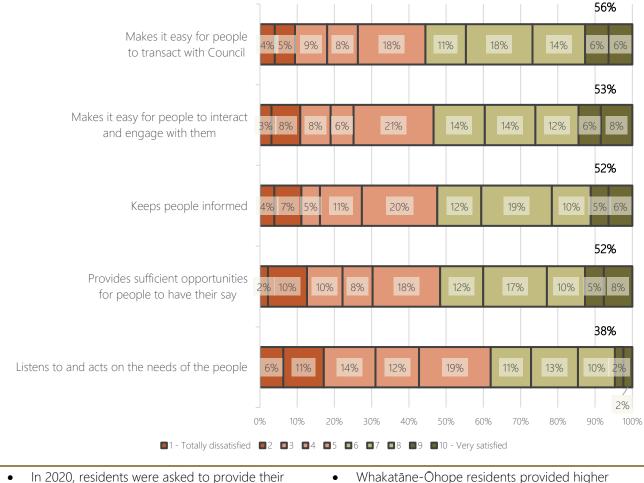


How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with provision of online services and information?

•

COMMUNICATION

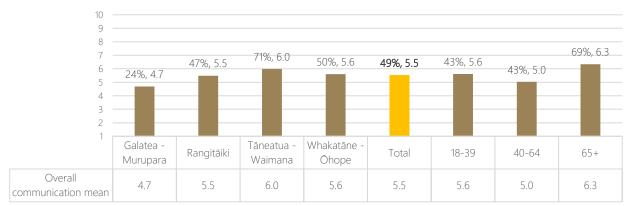
Communication with residents



residents and ratepayers.
About 6-in-10 residents (56%) were satisfied with 'Makes it easy for people to transact with Council'.

feedback about Council's communication with

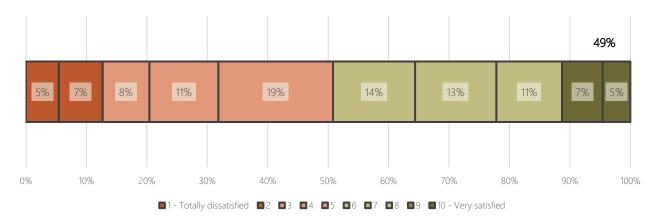
- Whakatāne-Ōhope residents provided higher ratings for 'Makes it easy for people to transact with Council'.
- On average, residents aged 40-64 were the least satisfied with Council's communication across all 5 statements.
- The lowest satisfaction overall was recorded for 'Listens to and acts on the needs of the people' (38%).



Overall satisfaction by ward and age (% satisfied and average scores)

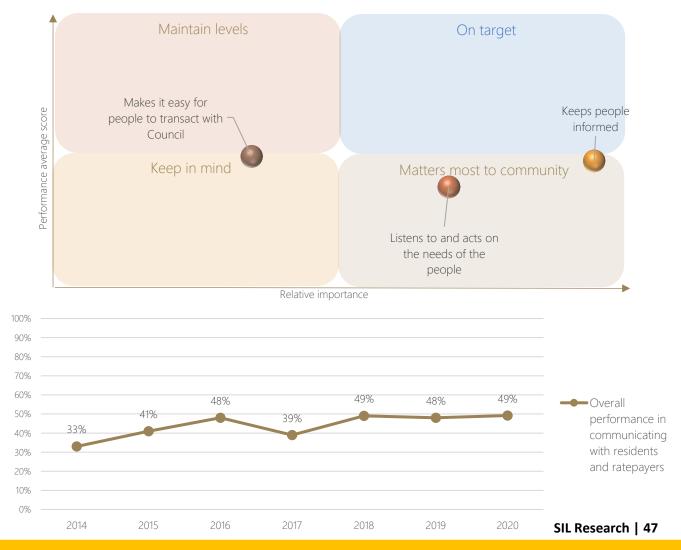
COMMUNICATION

Overall satisfaction with performance in communicating with residents and ratepayers



• Overall, 49% of residents were satisfied with Council's performance in communication and consultation with the public (48% in 2019).

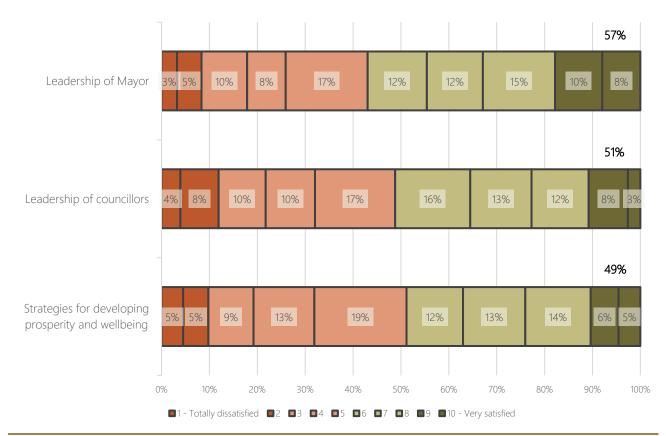
- Three statements relating to communication provided a significant contribution towards overall satisfaction.
- Two of these statements exhibited higher relative importance ('Keeps people informed' and 'Listens to and acts on the needs of the people'). Both areas would benefit from further improvement to increase resident performance ratings.



n=276 ('Don't know' responses not included).

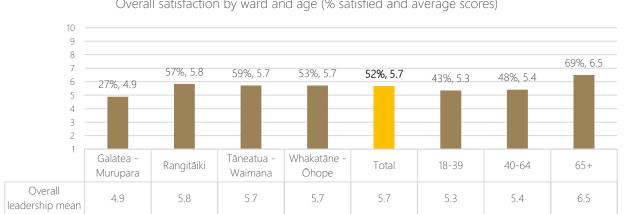
COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Performance in terms of Council leadership



In 2020, around 5-in-10 residents were satisfied with leadership of the Mayor (57%) and Councillors (51%), and strategies for developing prosperity and wellbeing (49%).

On average, older residents (65+) provided higher ratings across all three statements.

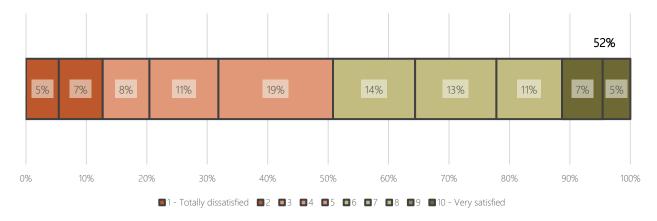


Overall satisfaction by ward and age (% satisfied and average scores)

٠

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

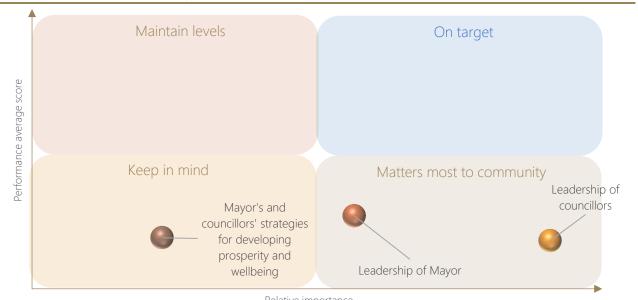
Overall satisfaction with Council leadership



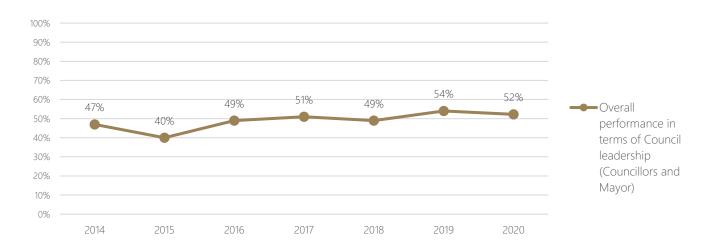
٠

- Overall, satisfaction with Council's leadership was 52% in 2020; this has been consistent over time (54% in 2019).
- Residents aged 65+ were significantly more satisfied with Council leadership.

Leadership of Councillors and Mayor had higher relative importance and could benefit from further improvement to increase resident perceptions of performance.

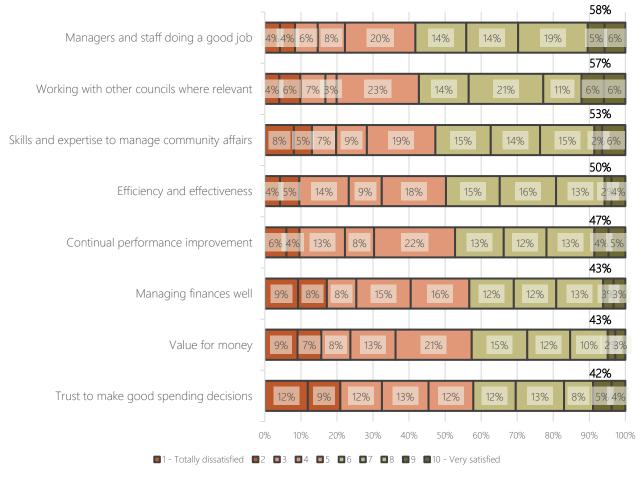


Relative importance

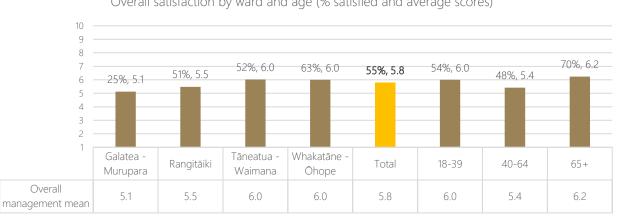


MANAGEMENT

Managing day-to-day business



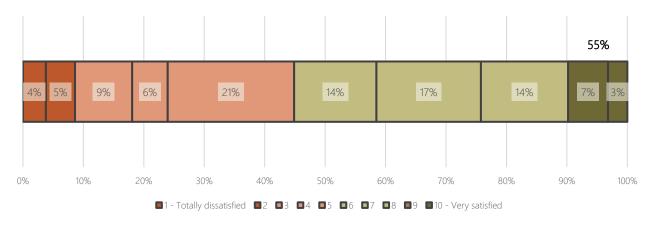
- Residents were most satisfied with managers and staff doing a good job; 58% rated this 6 or above (56% in 2019).
- On average, older residents (65+) provided • higher ratings of trust to make good spending decisions.
- Concurrently, fewer residents trusted WDC's • financial management, particularly to make good spending decisions (42%).
- Residents aged 40-64 were the least satisfied with • 'Managers and staff doing a good job'.



Overall satisfaction by ward and age (% satisfied and average scores)

MANAGEMENT

Overall satisfaction with performance in managing day-to-day business



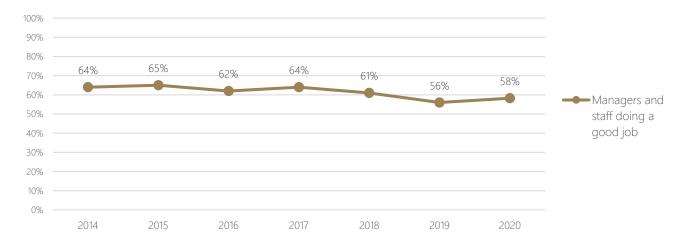
•

- 55% of residents provided high ratings (6 or above) for Council's overall management of day-to-day business.
- Residents aged between 40 and 64 were significantly less satisfied with this performance.

Gaining trust to make good spending decisions, increasing skills and expertise to manage community affairs, and value for money, could improve residents' overall satisfaction.



Relative importance

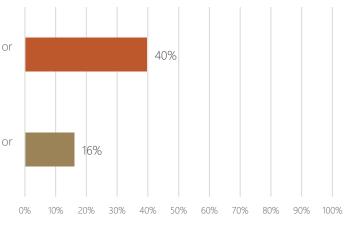


POLICY AND DIRECTION

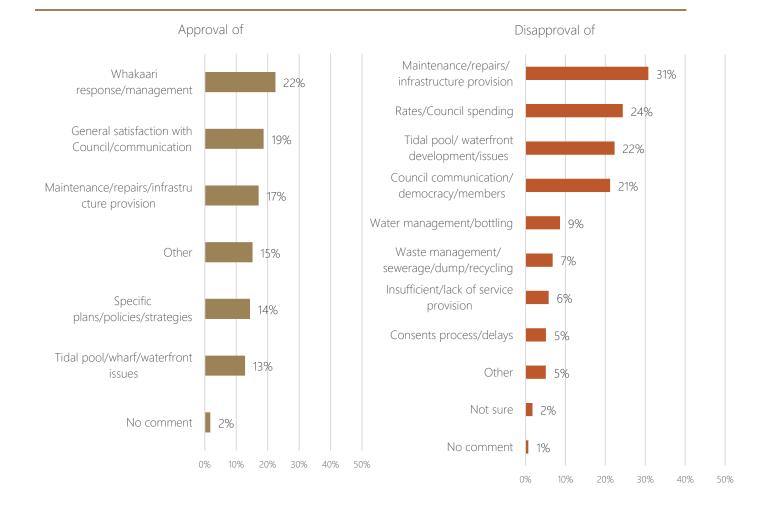
Council policy and direction approval or disapproval

Disliked or disapproved recent Council actions, decisions or management

Liked or approved recent Council actions, decisions or management



- Overall, 16% of residents recalled a recent Council action, decision, or management experience they approved of (40% in 2019).
- The main action that residents approved of was the 'Whakaari response/management' (22%).
- More residents aged 65+ liked or approved recent Council's action (27%).
- 40% of residents recalled a recent action, decision, or management experience they disapproved of (50% in 2019).
- More residents from Whakatāne-Ōhope and Rangitāiki wards disapproved of Council actions.



n=293. OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS SORTED INTO CATEGORIES. TOTALS MAY EXCEED 100% OWING TO MULTIPLE RESPONSES FOR EACH RESPONDENT.

APPENDIX

Survey participants

	Frequency	Percent
18-39	96	32
40-64	133	44
65+	71	24
Total	300	100

	Frequency	Percent
Female	155	52
Male	144	48
Other	1	0
Total	300	100

	Frequency	Percent
Other	246	82
Owned	35	12
Rented	8	3
I'd rather not say	11	4
Total	300	100

	Frequency	Percent
Other	3	1
\$20,000 or less	9	3
\$20,001-\$30,000	16	5
\$30,001-\$50,000	35	12
\$50,001-\$70,000	35	12
\$70,001-\$100,000	48	16
\$100,001 or more	83	28
I'd rather not say	72	24
Total	300	100

	Frequency	Percent*
New Zealand European	213	72
Māori	101	34
Pacific people	6	2
Asian	4	1
Middle Eastern, Latin American or African	4	1
Other	9	3
New Zealander/Kiwi	7	2
Total	294	100

* Multiple response question

Services	2019 Total	2020 Total	2019 Users	2020 Users
Parks or reserves	90%	82%	94%	87%
Walking and cycling facilities in the District	89%	71%	93%	80%
Playgrounds	82%	68%	90%	82%
Sports fields	82%	69%	89%	88%
Public swimming pools	74%	48%	86%	74%
Whakatāne Exhibition Centre	72%	43%	94%	89%
Public halls	71%	45%	82%	78%
Public toilets	65%	54%	74%	64%
Whakatāne Museum and Research Centre	47%	39%	84%	61%
Libraries in the District	83%	69%	93%	95%
Harbour facilities	77%	48%	90%	72%
Whakatāne crematorium facility	55%	34%	93%	90%
Cemeteries overall	74%	53%	96%	80%
Kerbside waste collection service	88%	79%	91%	87%
Refuse transfer station facilities	78%	66%	92%	84%
Water supply overall	81%	63%	89%	73%
Quality of drinking water	64%	58%	72%	68%
Stormwater services	64%	49%	75%	67%
Sewerage system	69%	51%	88%	76%
Council roads overall	81%	58%	82%	60%
Safety of Council roads	80%	60%	82%	63%
Parking in Whakatāne	77%	63%	83%	66%
Street lighting	72%	68%	77%	75%
Footpaths	70%	61%	74%	64%
Noise control	70%	28%	66%	31%
Dog control	68%	41%	57%	58%
Tourism promotion	83%	51%	88%	65%
Efforts to enable and promote events	79%	53%	88%	65%
Business promotion	51%	38%	63%	59%

Survey results comparison between 2019 and 2020 (total and users*)

*The term 'user' refers to a resident who either used/visited Council's service/ facility or was generally aware of it.