



**Children and Youth
Planning Table**
of Waterloo Region



LAUNCH



Coalition of Muslim Women
Kitchener-Waterloo



Waterloo∞
PUBLIC LIBRARY



Highland Stirling
Community Group



Building Blocks
for Brighter Futures



Cambridge Family
Early Years Centre



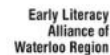
IDEA|EXCHANGE



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO



FACULTY OF HEALTH
School of Public Health
and Health Systems



LYLE S. HALLMAN
FOUNDATION

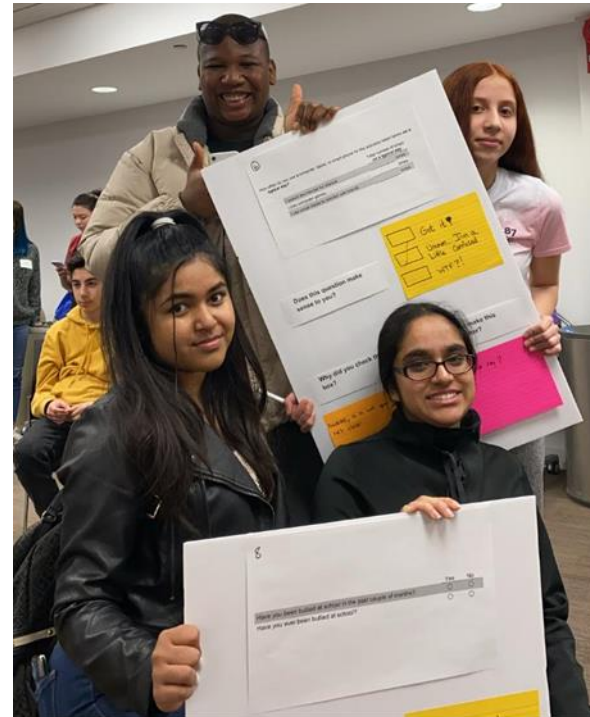


Children and Youth
Planning Table
of Waterloo Region

Who's Involved

748

3000+



Children and Youth
Planning Table
of Waterloo Region



**We are happy
and respected**



We are protected



We are learning



We are secure



**We are connected
to our environment**



**We are free
to play**



We are participating



We are healthy



We belong




YOUTH IMPACT SURVEY



youth
IMPACT
survey

YOUTH IMPACT SURVEY DATA BRIEFS



WHAT IS THE YOUTH IMPACT SURVEY?

The Children and Youth Planning Table (CYPT) partnered with UNICEF Canada, the Canadian Index of Wellbeing, and the Greater Toronto Foundation to develop and pilot the Youth Impact Survey (YIS). It was developed to align with the Canadian Index of Child and Youth Well-being, a framework developed by UNICEF Canada to better understand the lives of children and youth, help track progress for child and youth well-being and guide changes that can be made to help children and youth facing challenges in Canada. The framework includes 15 indicators over multiple dimensions of well-being.

Facilitated, decisions about children and youth are made without their involvement. The YIS will allow us to learn directly from children and youth in Waterloo Region about their own well-being and their experiences. Results of the survey can be used to inform conversations, decisions, services and programs impacting children and youth in our community.

We worked alongside local children and youth to identify what is important to them—things like how they are feeling, what they do in their free time, and how they feel about school and their community. Launched in July of 2020, children and youth between the ages of 9 and 18 were invited to participate in the YIS pilot to share insights into their own well-being and provide feedback on the survey tool, with just about 297 youth participating.

WHY IS THIS DATA IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW?

The purpose of the Youth Impact Survey Data Brief Series is to highlight key well-being data that was shared from young people in Waterloo Region over the summer of 2020 – during the COVID-19 pandemic. This series will present data across 10 focus areas of child and youth well-being. We hope that this information is helpful to those working and supporting children and youth in our community. The data can help inform the current state of well-being, inform the action, conjunction with additional data and for as a conversation starter with young people to better understand their specific state of well-being.

INTRODUCTION 2020

Children and youth between the ages of 9 and 18 from Waterloo Region, which includes the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo and townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot, and Woolwich, were invited to participate in the YIS. The CYPT members used a combination of direct contact and social media, to invite children and youth to participate in an online survey.

A TOTAL OF 297 YOUTH COMPLETED THE YOUTH IMPACT SURVEY.

AGE

The majority of respondents (79.5%) who completed the survey were 13 years of age or older. 9 and 11 year olds were the smallest response groups.

Age	Percent
9	3.5%
10	7.3%
11	3.8%
12	5.9%
13	10.8%
14	17.7%
15	18.1%
16	12.5%
17	15.3%
18	5.2%

GENDER

The survey was completed by 65.2% of female identifying respondents which is just over double that of the number of male identifying respondents (31.4%). Another 3.4% of respondents preferred to describe themselves as a gender identity other than male or female.

65.2%

Female

31.4%

Male

3.4%

Prefer to describe myself as a gender identity other than male or female

GEOGRAPHY

Children and youth across Waterloo Region were invited to complete the survey - 89.9% of the respondents lived in one of the three cities, while 10.1% lived in one of the four townships.

COUNTRY OF BIRTH

82.4% of respondents were born in Canada and 17.6% of respondents who completed the survey were born outside of Canada.

Country	Percent
Canada	82.4%
India	2.8%
U.S.A.	2.1%
Pakistan	1.4%
Syria	1.4%
Ethiopia	1.0%
Other ¹	9%

1 Data notes: These were 18 respondents from other countries, including China, Russia, Japan, United Arab Emirates, and others.


RESPONDENT PROFILE 2020

WHAT DOES THE DATA SAY?

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY


Among YIS respondents, 72.6% agreed or strongly agreed they had a personal responsibility to help protect the natural environment.

72.6%



About one in four (24.1%) regularly participate in events organized by local groups to protect the natural environment.²

24.1%



NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENTS

When thinking about natural environments, 74.6% of respondents agreed that there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy nature in their neighbourhood. In regards to built environments, 60.5% of respondents agreed that there are recreation and culture facilities that are easy for them to get to. However, only 45.9% of respondents agreed that the quality of recreation and culture facilities in their community is very high.

74.6%

Opportunities to enjoy nature

60.5%

Easy access to recreation and culture facilities

45.9%

Quality of recreation and culture facilities in their community is very high.

20. Data notes: These were 18 respondents from other countries, including China, Russia, Japan, United Arab Emirates, and others.

WE ARE CONNECTED TO THE ENVIRONMENT 2020



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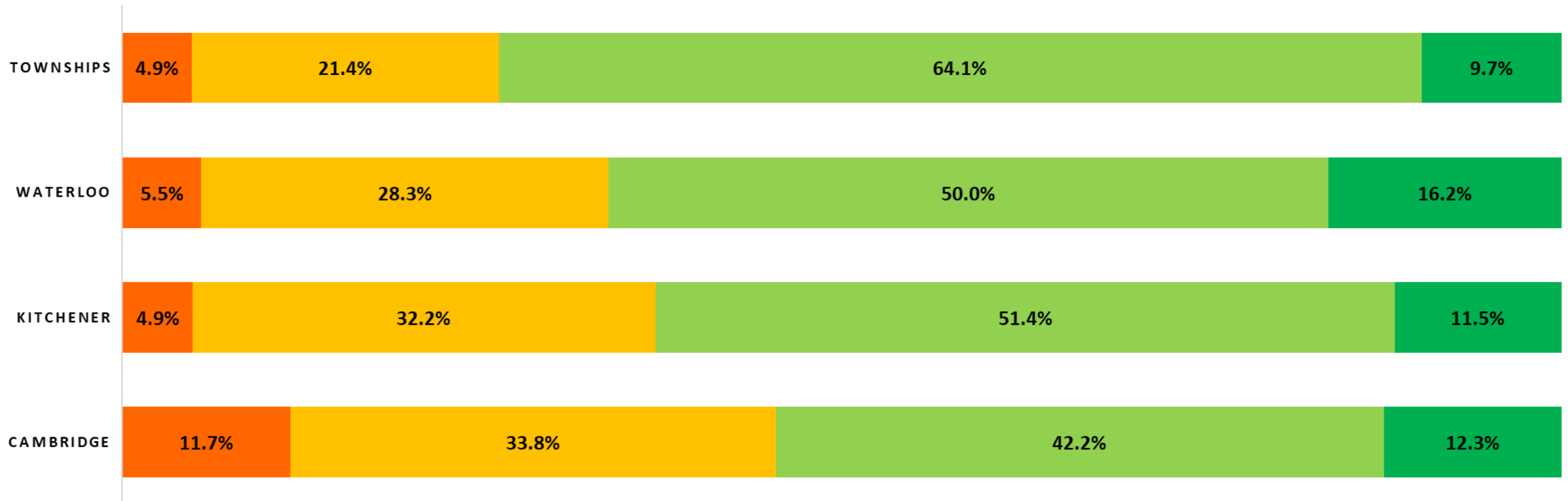


*The children also don't play with me
and I'm too scared to play with them
cause I'm different race and I have
different religion.*

~ youth in Cambridge

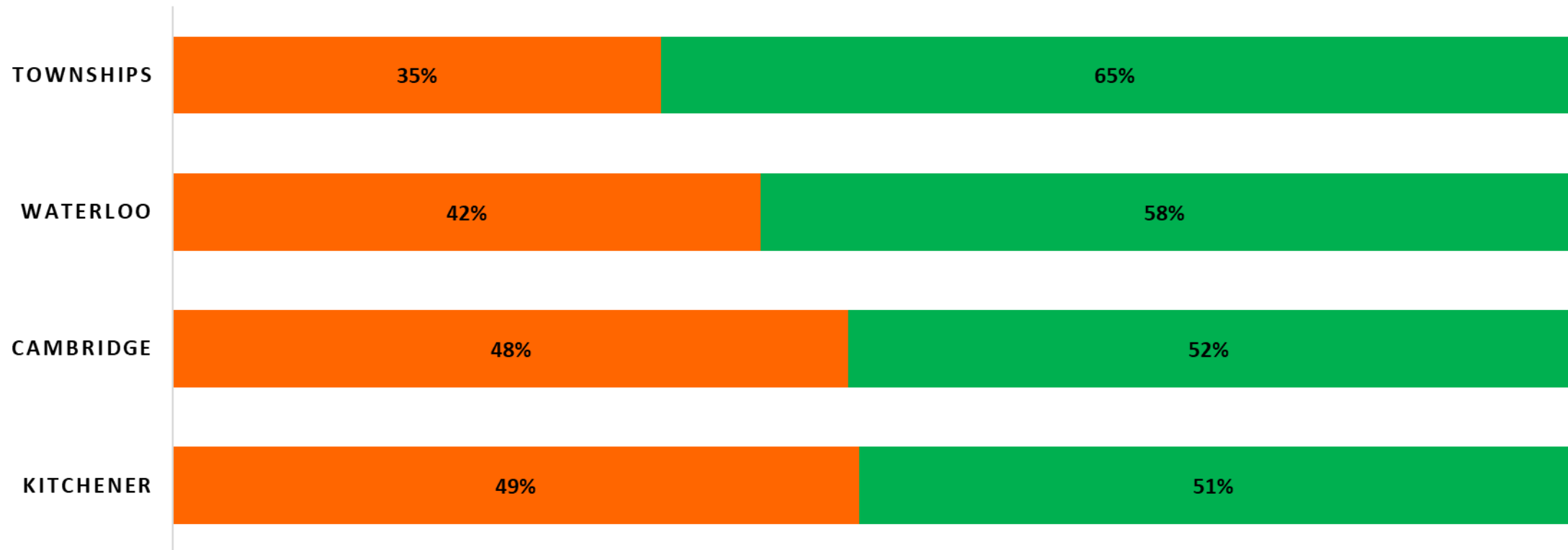
SENSE OF BELONGING

Very Weak Weak Strong Very Strong



SELF-ASSESSED MENTAL HEALTH

More Negative More Positive



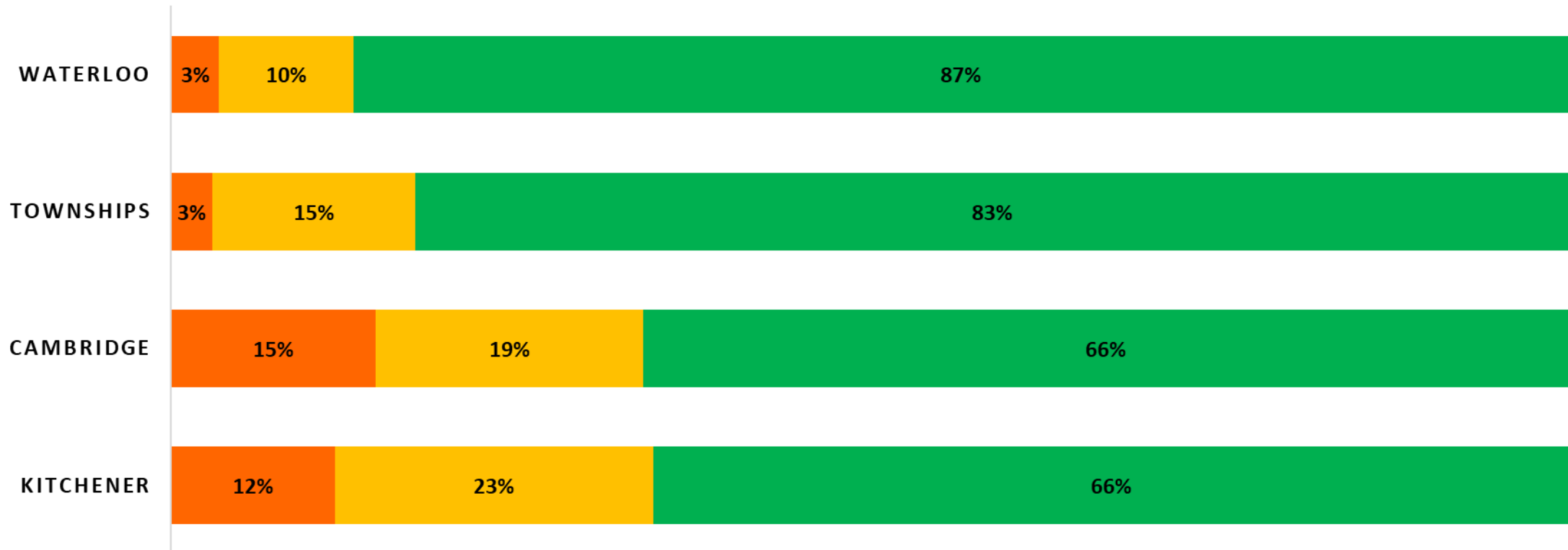
HAVE YOU EVER HAD TO TEMPORARILY LIVE WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS, IN YOUR CAR, OR ANYWHERE ELSE BECAUSE YOU HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO LIVE?

Yes No



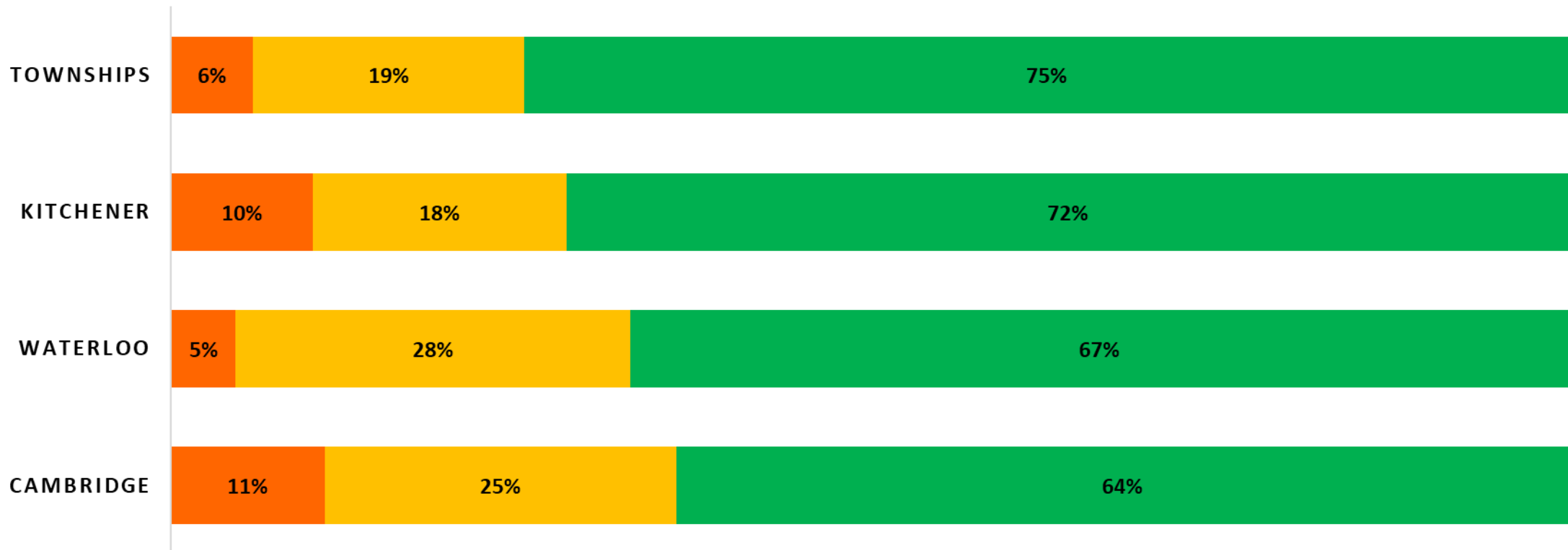
THERE ARE PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES TO ENJOY NATURE IN MY NEIGHBOURHOOD

Disagree Neither Agree/Disagree Agree



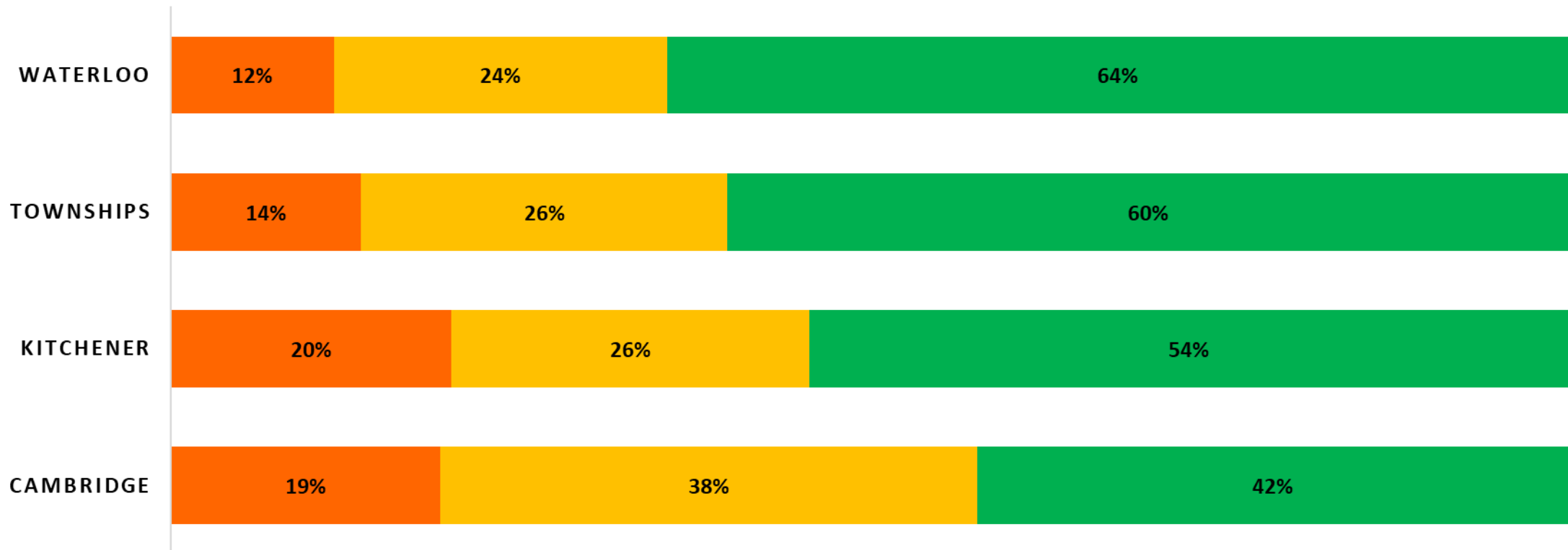
I FEEL I HAVE A PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP PROTECT THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Disagree Neither Agree/Disagree Agree



THERE ARE RECREATION AND CULTURE FACILITIES THAT ARE EASY FOR ME TO GET TO

Disagree Neither Agree/Disagree Agree



*Actually use it. Don't just look at it
as a theoretical thing you could do
someday, actually do it.*

~ Youth Impact Survey participant

► CALLS TO ACTION

- Identify how you can use the data from this survey to **inform your decision-making**.
- Consider how the **voices of young people can be heard** more regularly by the City of Cambridge.
- Be part of **actioning the Community Action Report** – a compilation of suggested actions from young people across the community.

THANK
YOU



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