

About the survey



Aims to gain insight from the people of Greater Manchester about their...

- **attitudes**
- **behaviours**
- **experiences**

in relation to living in our city region



Survey waves **run quarterly**



Each survey wave:

- **~2,000** respondents **in total**
- **~200** respondents **from Bolton**



Run by **GMCA** with key **stakeholder input** from the 10 councils & TfGM

How to access:

- **Main reports** for each wave on the GMCA website¹
- **Borough summaries** of key questions are circulated internally
- **Custom table builder & data download** for BRAIN members²



What can you find out?



The survey covers a **broad range of topics**, reporting against the **GM strategy** themes



The survey gives **good population estimates**

- A good **GM estimate** from **1 wave**
- A good **Bolton estimate** from **2 waves combined**

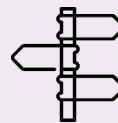


Some topics are covered **regularly**, some **new** to meet **particular needs**



Reports cover:

- **Change over time** across GM
- Differences between **equality groups**



Topics regularly covered include:

- Cost of living
- Perceptions of your local area
- Digital inclusion
- The environment
- And more...

Cost of living highlights⁴



Across GM, **31%** had **borrowed more money** or used more credit than usual in the previous month.

- **41%** with a **disability**
- **44%** of females U30 with a **child U5**



Across GM, **46%** think they will be able to **save money** over the next year

- Similar to the picture in previous surveys



Across GM, **51%** think they would be able to pay an **unexpected** but necessary expense of **£850**

- **Lower than 64%** of **GB**



Renters find most **difficulty affording** their **energy costs**



These questions are **returning** in wave 22, **to be released soon...**

Home & neighbourhood highlights⁵



Across GM, **73%** are **satisfied with their local area** as a place to live

- Similar to levels seen nationally



Across GM, **80%** think people from **different backgrounds get on together** well in their area

- Similar to levels seen nationally



The main ways housing was **negatively affecting people's health** were

- Fear of losing their home
- Community or neighbours
- Affordability



Across GM, households with a **wheelchair user** were more likely to experience a **negative** impact from their **housing**

- Lack of **accessibility** at home was impacting mental & physical health

Environmental highlights⁵



Across GM, **69%** are **concerned** about **climate change**

- **Lower** than 84% of **GB**
- Those **aged 25-44** are **more likely** to be **concerned**
- Those who **feel hopeful about the future** or who have **volunteered** are more likely to be concerned



Those who **haven't made a change** are most likely to say this is because they **don't think their actions will have an impact**



Across GM, **75%** have made a change in their lifestyle

- **54%** have changed their **shopping** e.g. buying secondhand or repairing
- **50%** have changed their **transport** e.g. walking/ cycling more or driving less

Digital inclusion highlights⁵



Across GM, **79%** go online as much as they want

- **8%** don't go online & **don't want to**
- **4%** don't go online but **want to**



Across GM, **61%** of those **aged 75+** are **offline**



The most popular activities are also what are most likely to **prompt people to go online** in the next year

- Online shopping
- social media/messaging
- watching tv/ films



Across GM, **54%** have a **barrier** or vulnerability to **full digital inclusion**

- **30%** have an access & a skills barrier
- **Access** barriers relate to devices & connections,
- **Skills barriers** are about confidence & knowledge

References

September 2026

- [1] GMCA (2026). Greater Manchester Resident surveys [Resident Surveys - Greater Manchester Combined Authority](#)
- [2] Bolton JSNA (2026). Useful websites – GM residents' survey [Useful websites – Bolton JSNA](#)
- [3] GMCA (2025). Greater Manchester strategy: Together we are GM. [Together we are Greater Manchester | Our Strategy](#)
- [4] GM residents survey wave 17 [Greater Manchester Residents' Survey](#)
- [5] GM residents survey wave 21 [GM Residents Survey November 2025](#)

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