



QUALITY OF LIFE



COLMAR BRUNTON
Social Research Agency

QUALITY OF LIFE SURVEY 2016

Crime and Safety

Quality of Life Survey 2016

Crime and Safety

A joint project between the following New Zealand councils



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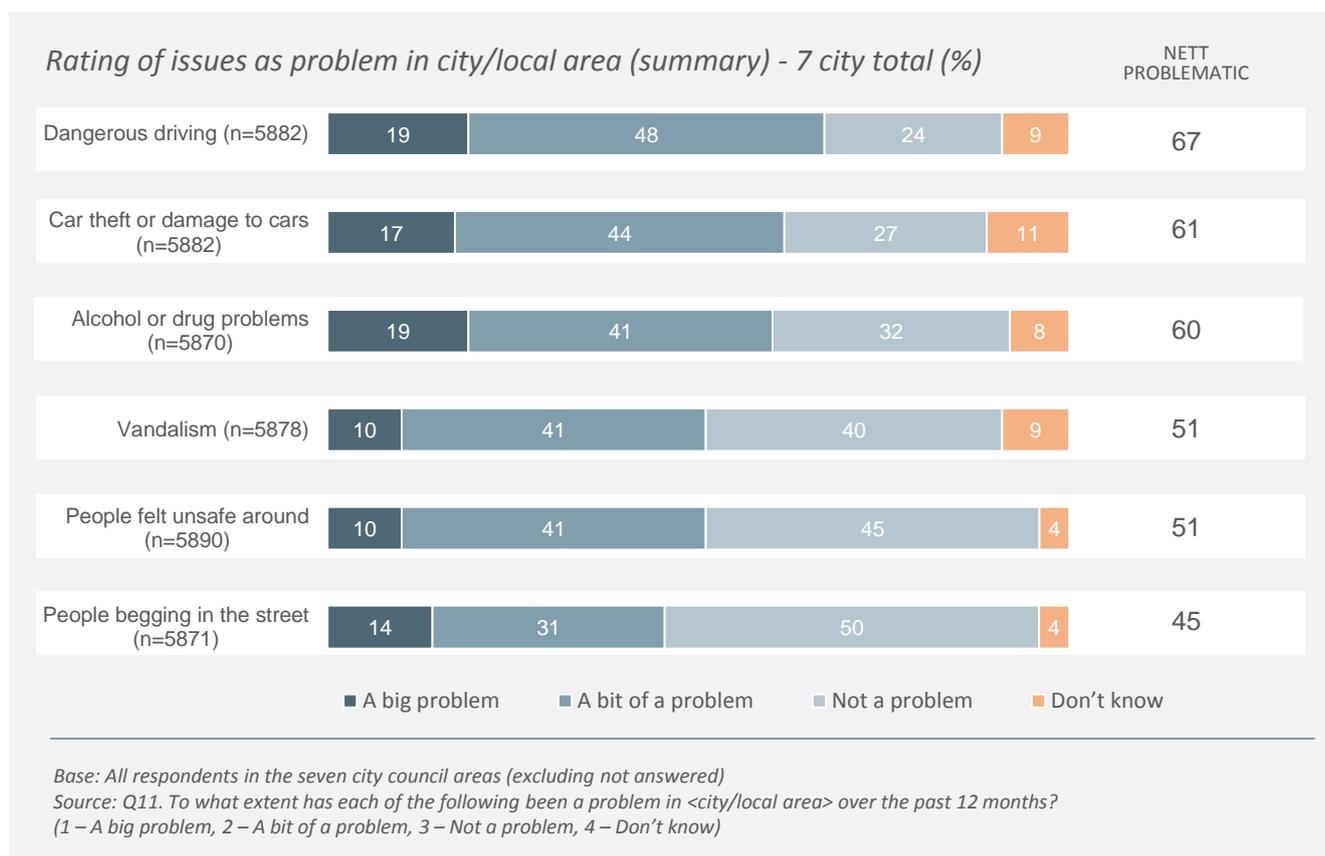
This section reports on respondents’ perceptions of problems in their city or local area in the last 12 months, as well as their sense of safety in their homes, neighbourhoods and city centres.¹

Respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which they perceived 10 possible issues had been a problem in their local area in the last year. Results for six issues relating to crime and safety are reported in this section (vandalism, dangerous driving, car theft and damage, alcohol and drug issues, people perceived to be unsafe, and people begging on the street), and results for the other four issues are reported in Section 8.

5.1 Rating of issues as problem in city/local area (summary)

The table below shows overall results for the seven cities combined. Results across all nine participating councils for each issue are outlined on the following pages.

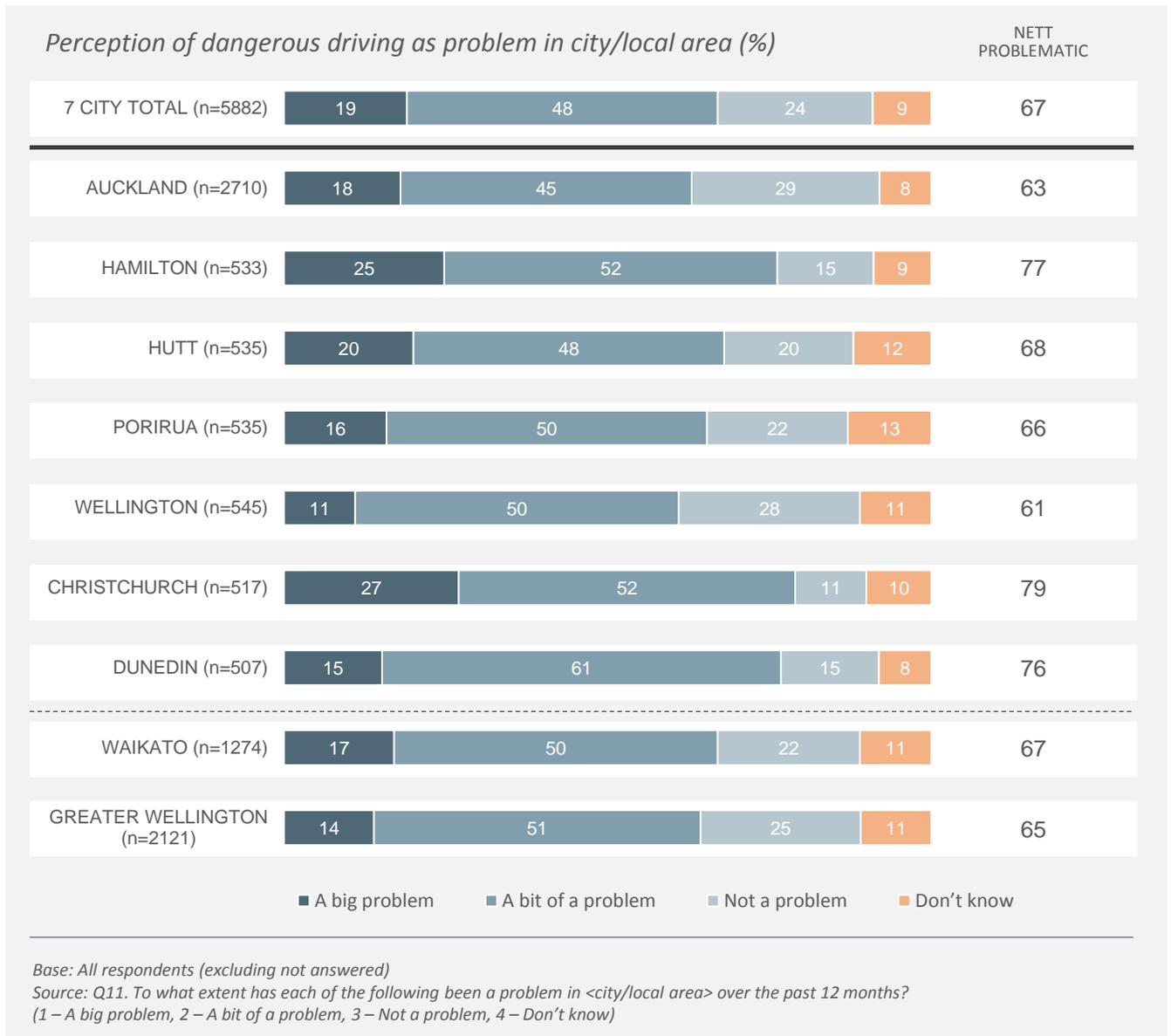
More than two thirds (67%) of respondents in the seven cities perceived dangerous driving as a ‘big problem’ or a ‘bit of a problem’ in their city or local area in the previous 12 months, followed by car theft, damage to cars or theft from cars (61%), and alcohol and drug problems or anti-social behaviour associated with the consumption of alcohol (60%).



¹ Auckland, Waikato region and the Greater Wellington region questionnaires referred to ‘your local area’ throughout the survey, whereas other cities’ questionnaires referred to the specific city name (e.g. Hutt City)

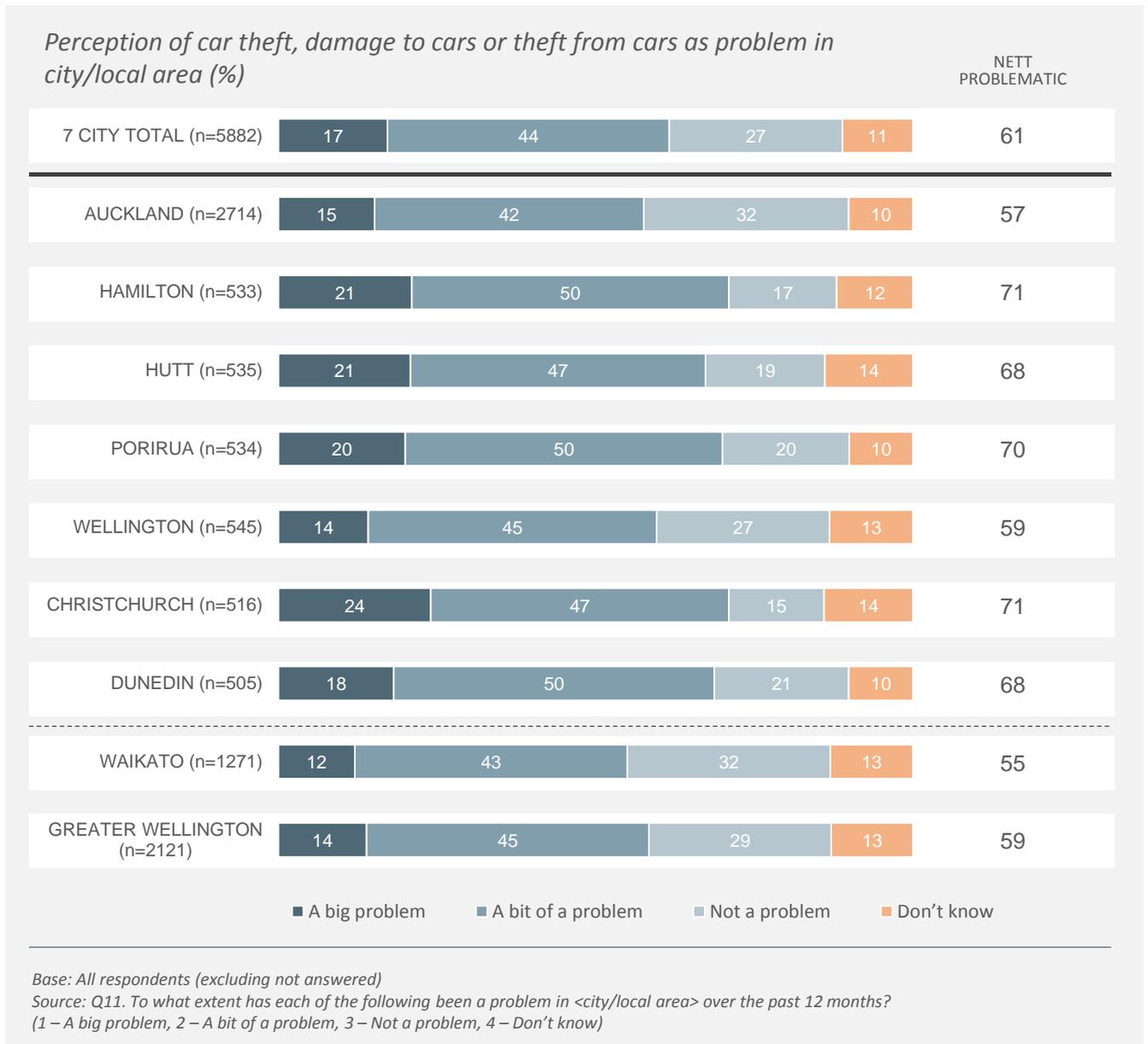
Dangerous driving, including drink driving and speeding

More than two thirds (67%) of respondents in the seven city areas perceived dangerous driving (including drink driving and speeding) to have been a problem in their city or local area over the past year. Close to two in ten (19%) perceive it to be ‘a big problem’ in their local area, and a further five in ten (48%) perceive it to be ‘a bit of a problem’.



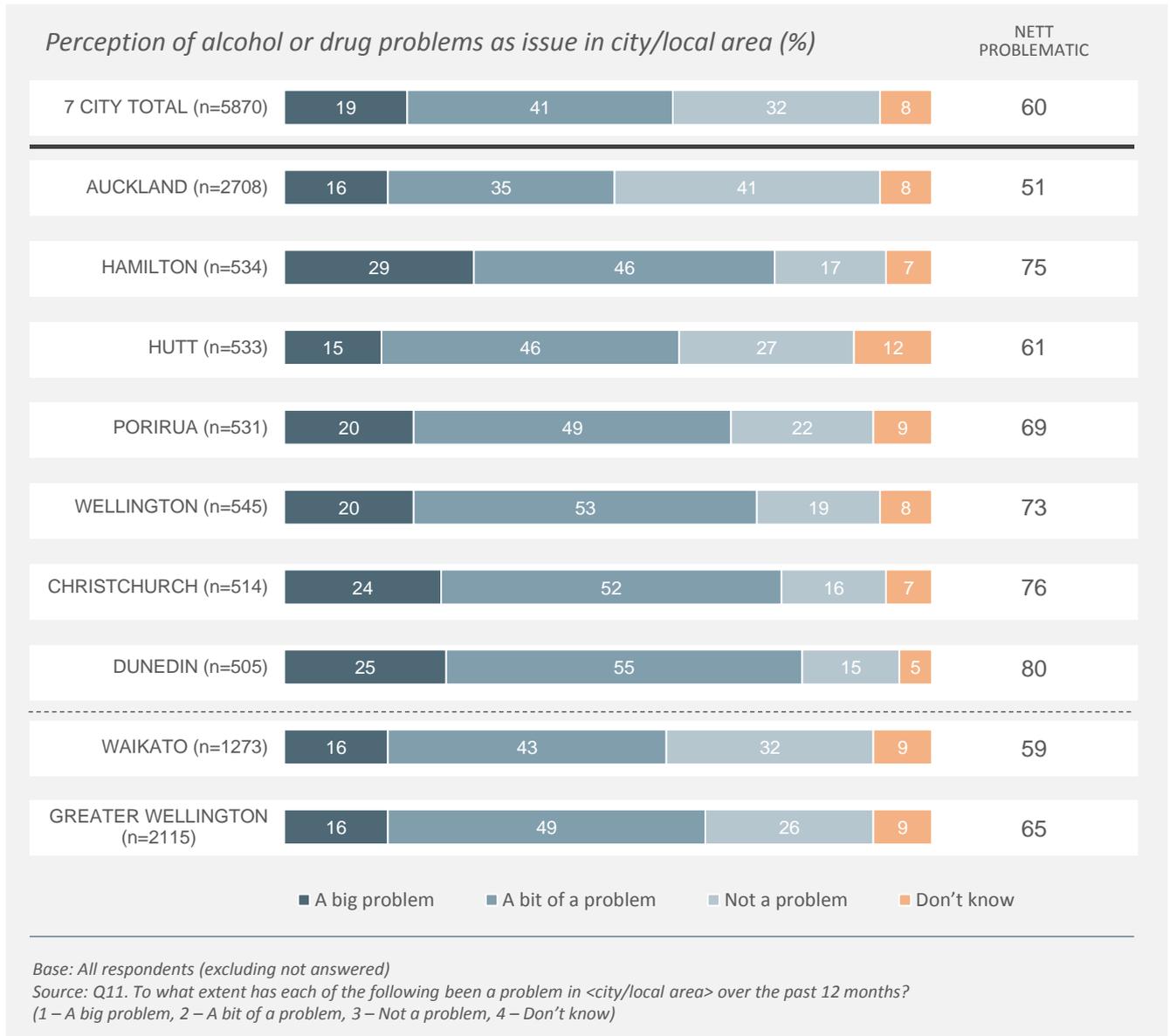
Car theft, damage to cars or theft from cars

Six in ten (61%) respondents perceive car theft and damage to have been a problem in their local area over the past 12 months, with 17% rating it 'a big problem' and 44% 'a bit of a problem'.



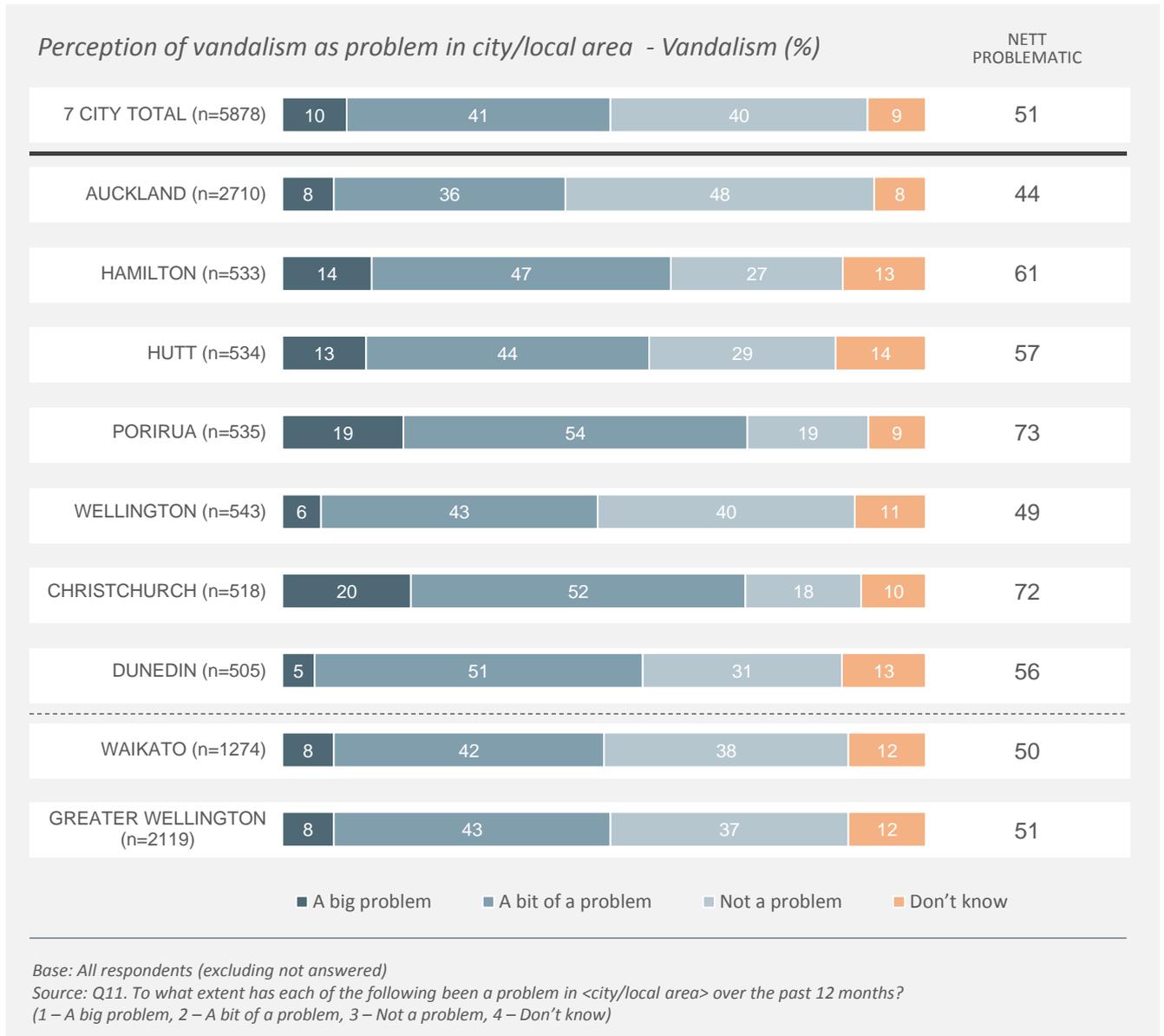
Alcohol or drug problems

Six in ten (60%) respondents in the seven city areas perceive alcohol or drugs problems, or anti-social behaviour associated with the consumption of alcohol, to be a problem in their city or local area, with two in ten (19%) rating it 'a big problem' and four in ten (41) 'a bit of a problem'.



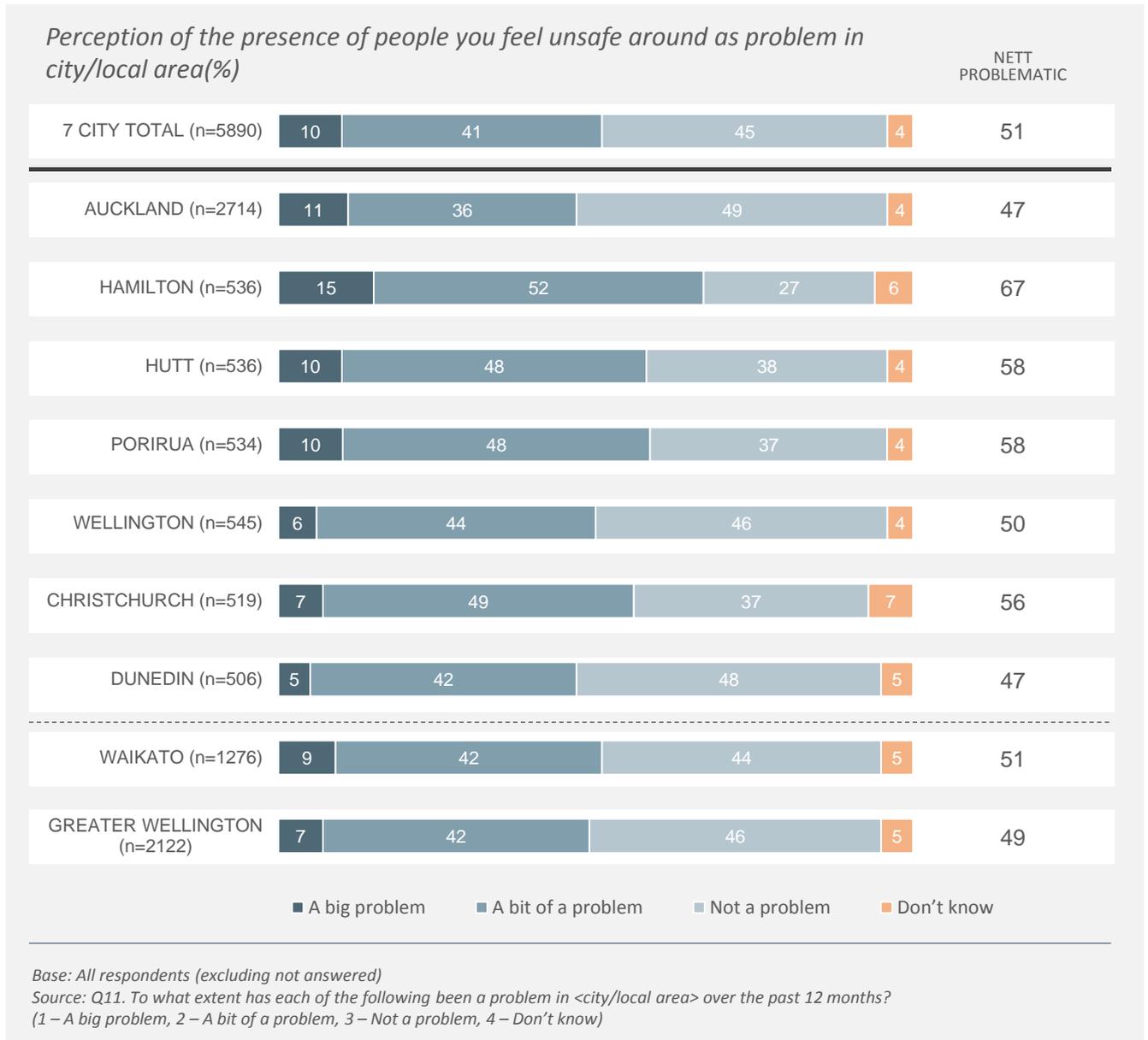
Vandalism

Half (51%) of respondents in the seven cities perceived vandalism to have been a problem in their city or local area over the past 12 months. One in ten (10%) say it has been ‘a big problem’ and four in ten (41%) say it has been ‘a bit of a problem’.



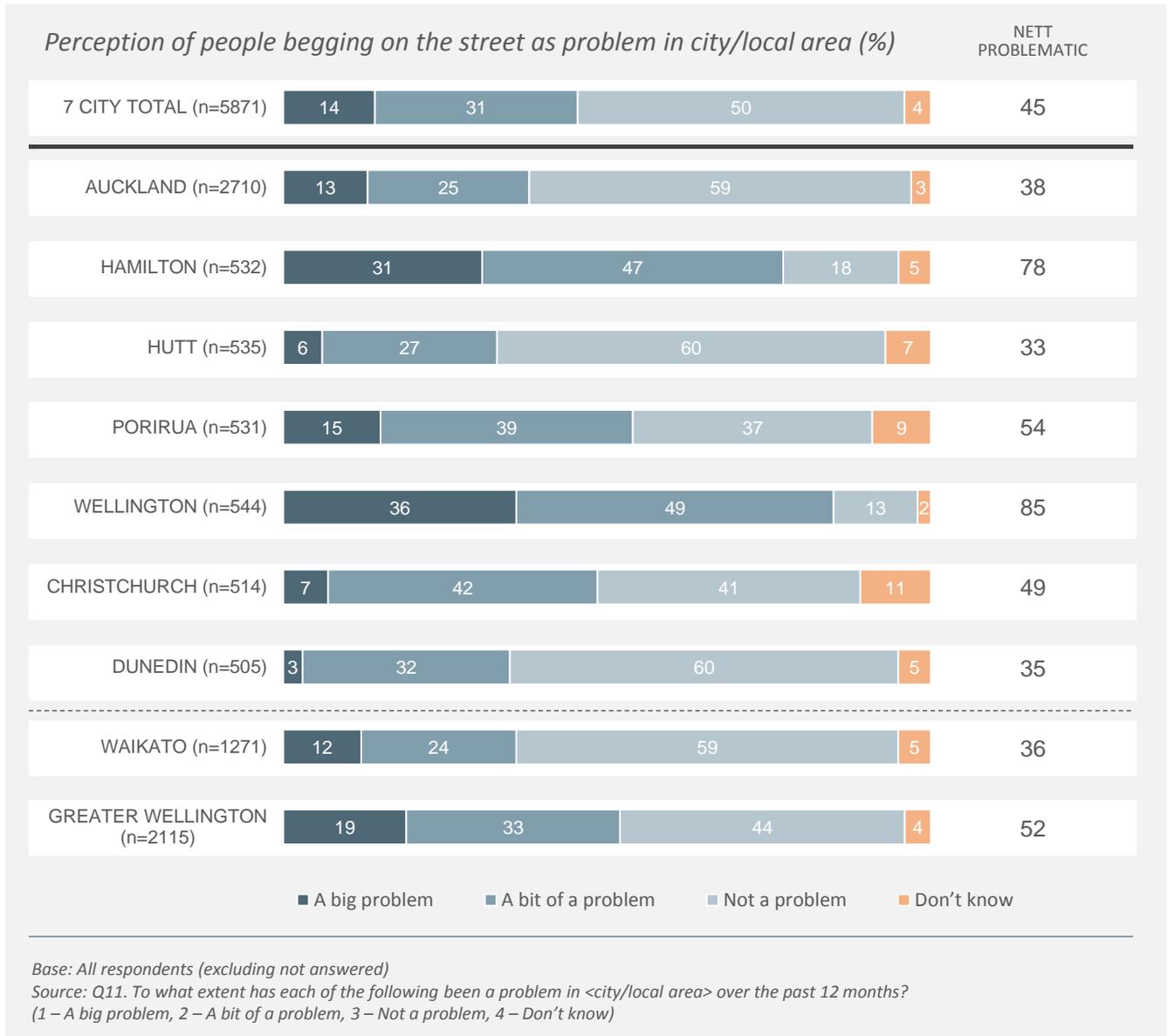
Presence of people you feel unsafe around

Half (51%) of respondents in the seven cities had felt unsafe around people in their area in the last 12 months due to their behaviour, attitude or appearance, and considered it to be a problem. One in ten (10%) considered it ‘a big problem’ and four in ten (41%) ‘a bit of a problem’.



People begging in the street

Just under half (45%) of respondents in the seven city areas considered people begging on the street to have been a problem in their local area during the last 12 months. Over one in ten (14%) considered it ‘a big problem’ and three in ten (31%) ‘a bit of a problem’.



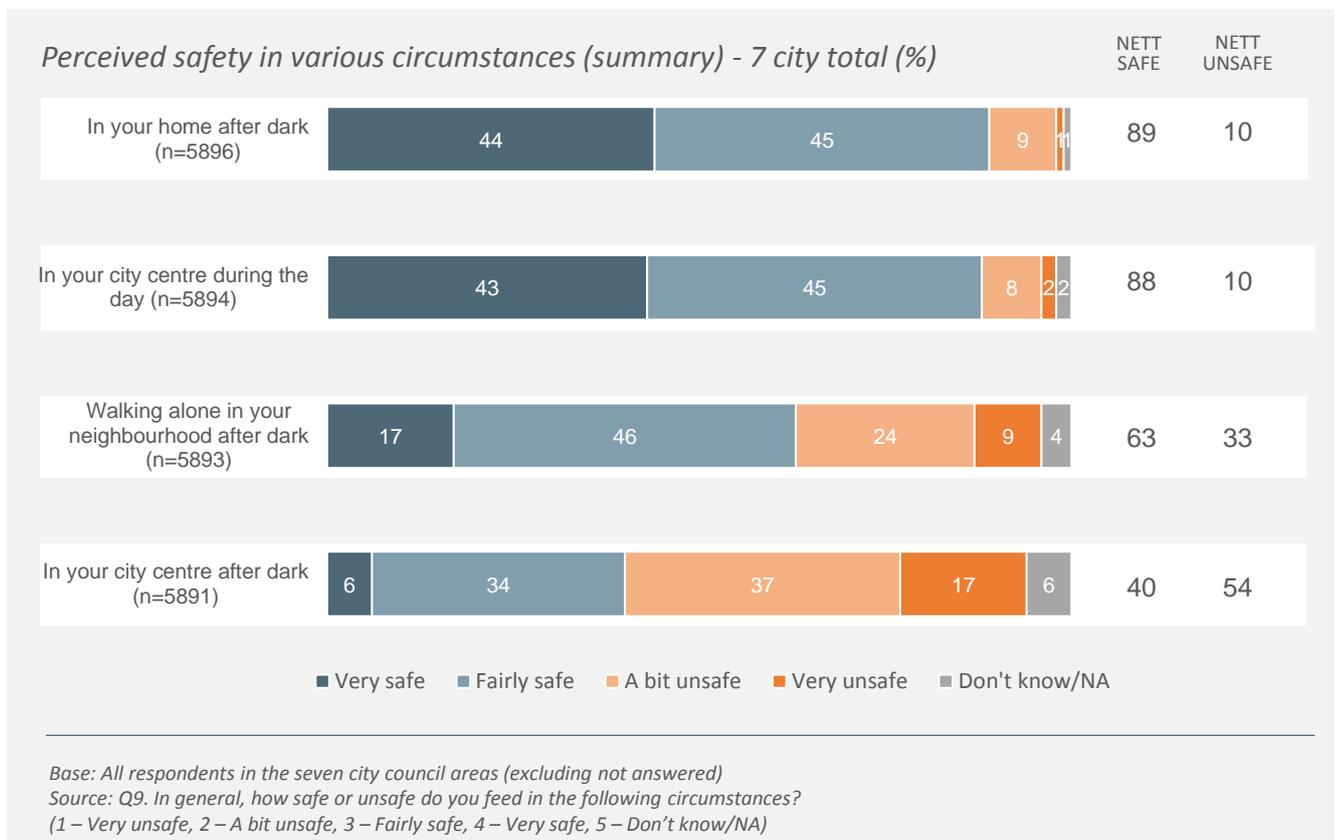
5.2 Sense of safety

Respondents were asked to rate their general feelings of safety when considering four different circumstances: in their own home after dark; walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark; in their city centre during the day; and in their city centre after dark. Respondents were also asked to note in their own words which area they regarded as their city centre - this data is not reported here but will be used in analysis of the results by individual councils.

Perceived safety in various circumstances (summary chart)

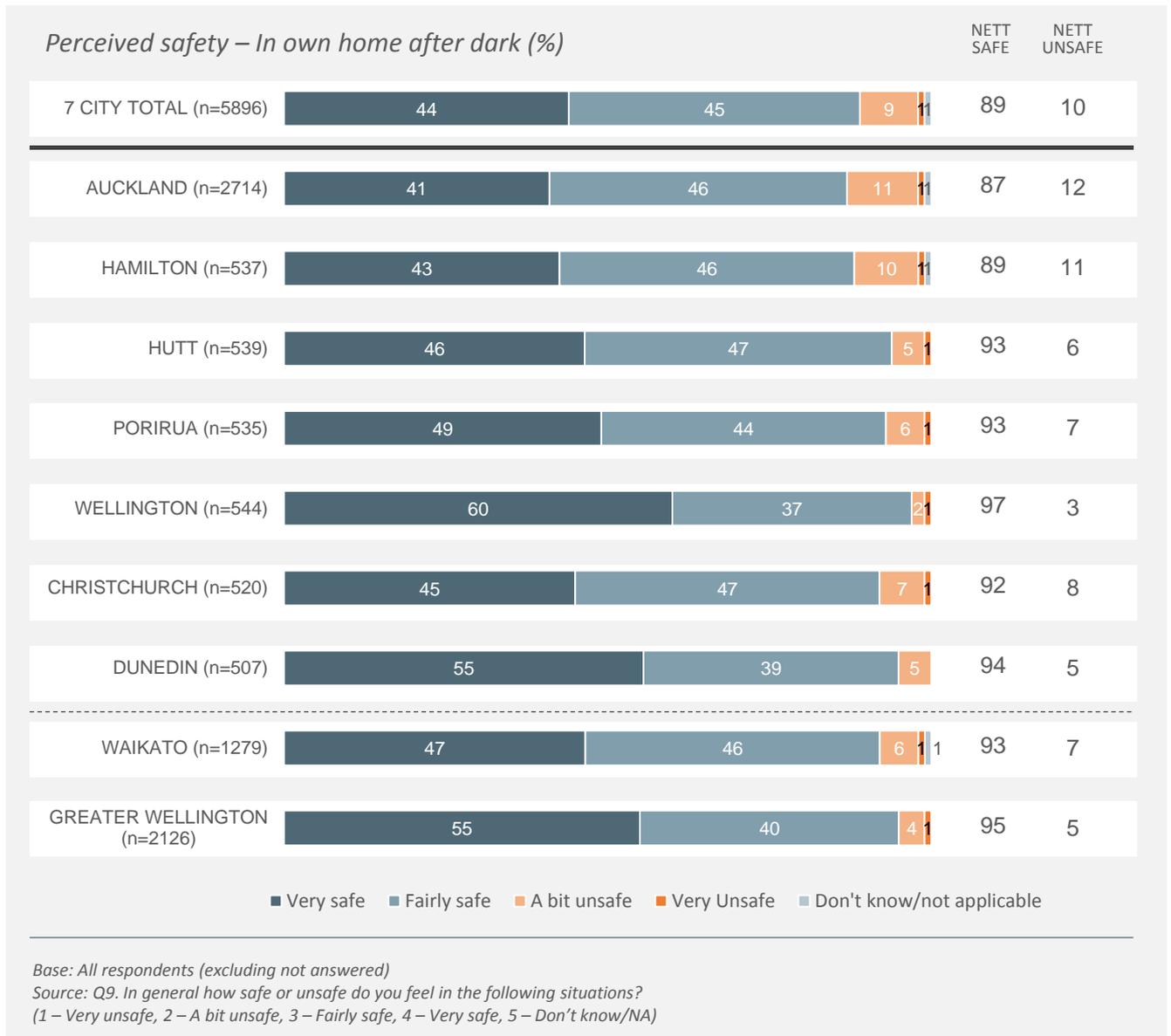
The table below shows overall results for the seven cities combined. Results across all nine participating councils for each circumstance are outlined on the following pages.

While the majority of respondents in the seven cities felt safe in their city centre during the day and in their homes after dark (88% and 89% respectively), less than two thirds (63%) felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark, and only one in four (40%) felt safe in their city centre after dark.



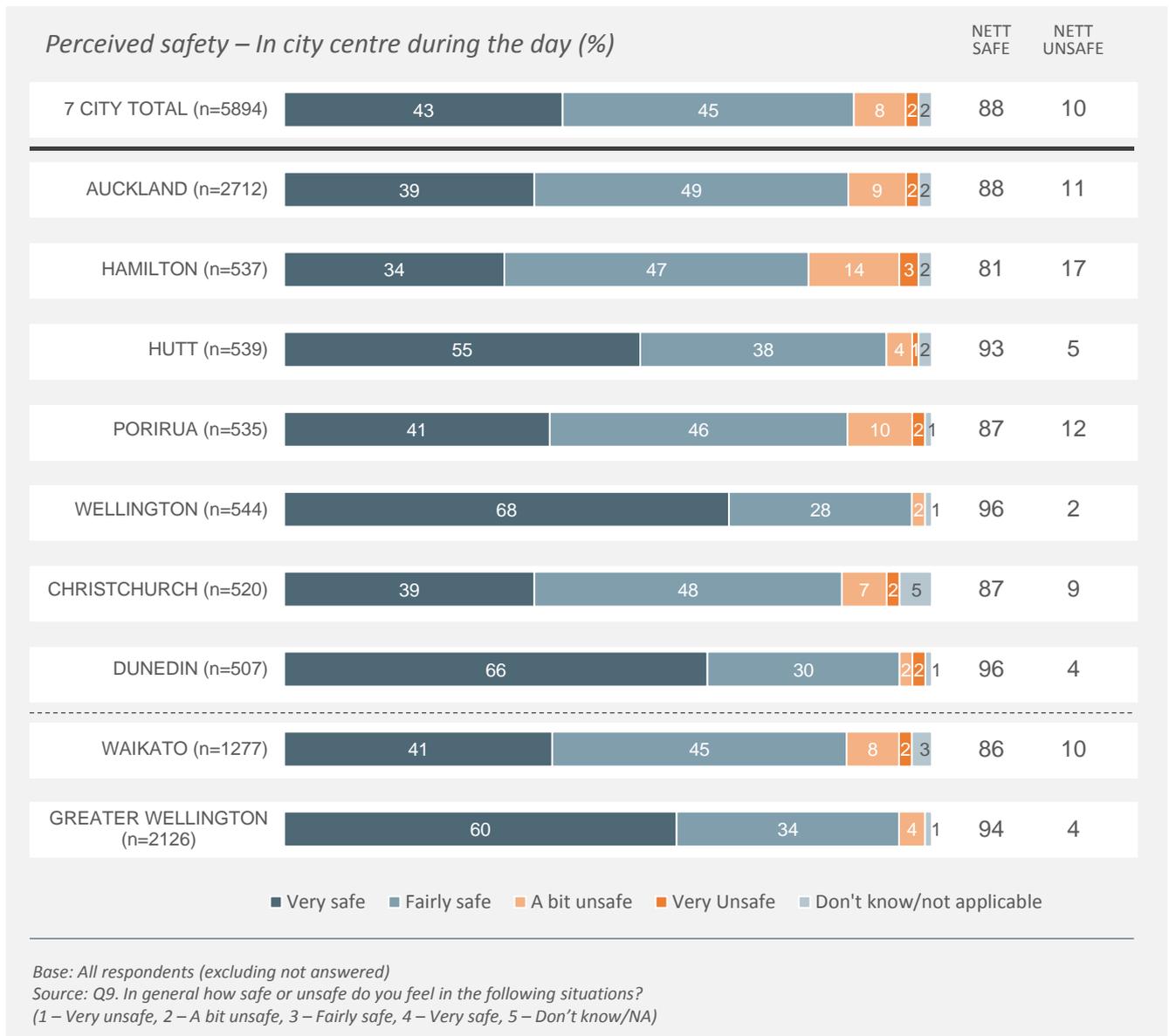
Perceived safety in own home after dark

Nine in ten (89%) respondents in the seven cities reported that, in general, they feel safe in their home after dark.



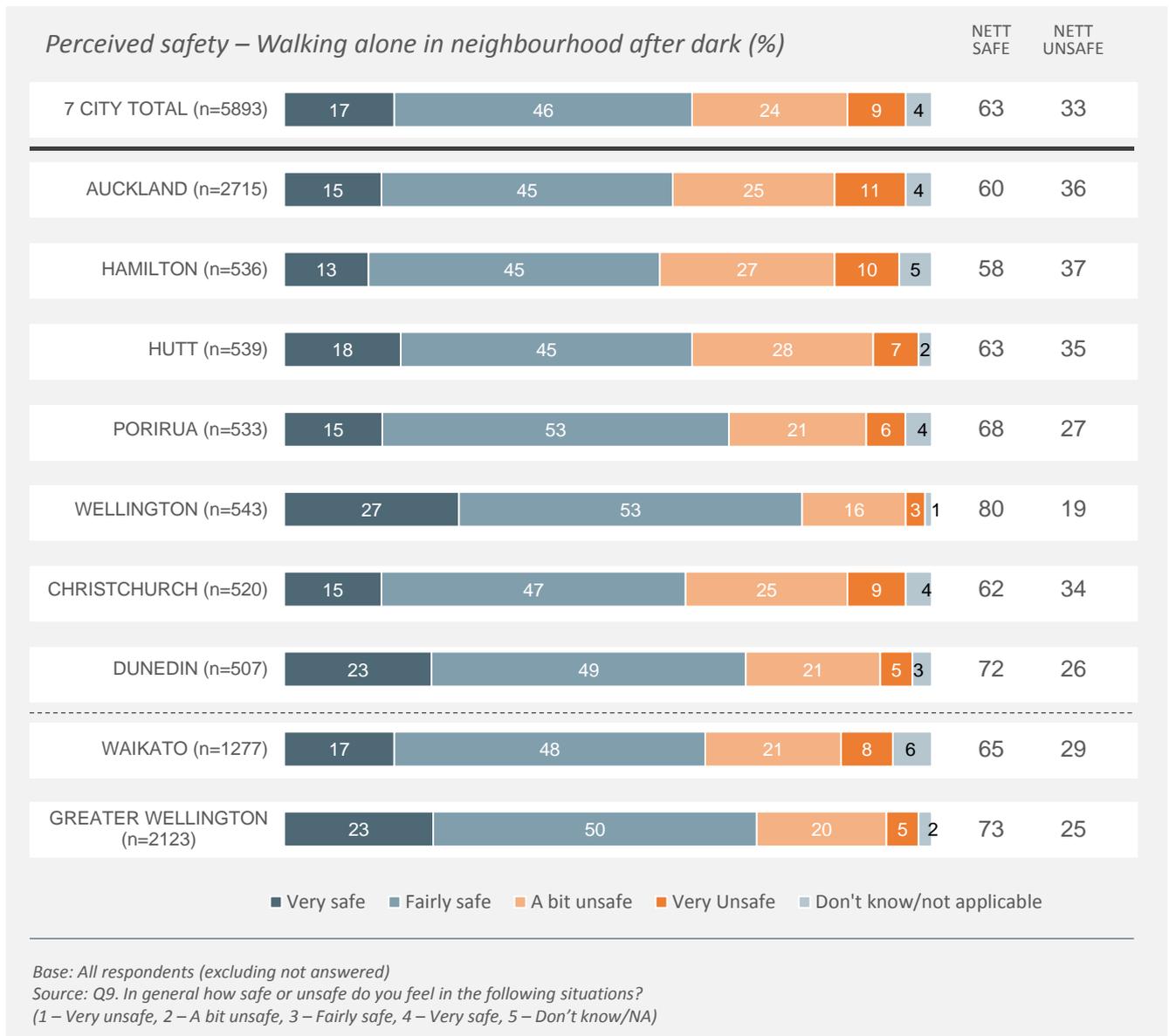
Perceived safety in city centre during the day

Almost nine in ten (88%) respondents across the seven cities feel safe in their city centre during the day.



Perceived safety walking alone in neighbourhood after dark

More than six in ten (63%) respondents feel safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark.



Perceived safety in city centre after dark

Four in ten (40%) respondents across the seven cities feel safe in their city centre after dark.

