

Basic Needs & Belonging

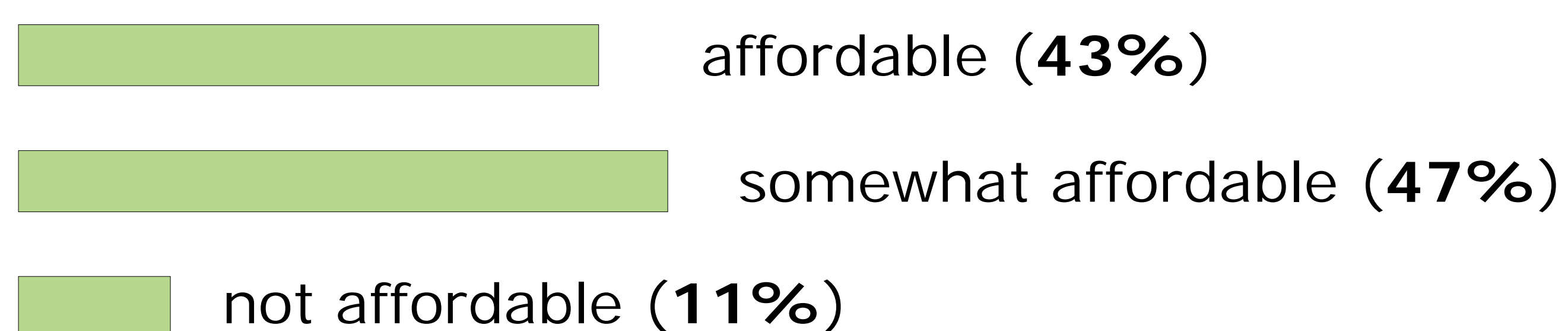
Highlights from the 2016 Guelph Wellington Immigrant Survey Report

Affordability & Access

Only **58%** of survey respondents said they **always** had **access to healthy food**.

Some also mentioned having difficulty accessing culturally familiar foods.

Immigrants surveyed find housing:



Respondents who had been in Canada for less than 7 years were more likely to find housing not affordable.

85% find transportation to be **affordable**, but some identify issues related to reliability, coverage and frequency of public transit.

Health and Safety

71% and **78%** of survey participants reported "good" or "excellent" physical and mental health.

98% reported **feeling safe** "always" or "often".

Recommendations Include

- Ensure that information about **food supports** is accessible to immigrant communities.
- Improve promotion and communication about **housing assistance resources**, including specific strategies to reach immigrant communities.
- Consider innovative approaches to increase **access to transportation in rural areas** such as community car shares, or ride-sharing programs.
- Develop initiatives to **increase inclusion** in neighbourhoods, workplaces and schools.

Data drawn from a survey of 218 immigrants living in Guelph and Wellington (August-October 2016).

For more information, access the full 2016 Guelph Wellington Immigrant Survey Report at www.guelphwellingtonip.ca

Alternate accessible formats available upon request at 519-822-1260.

Sense of Belonging



About **1 in 3** respondents have **felt out of place** at work, at school, or in their neighborhood due to their culture, language, race or religion.

77% feel welcome "often" or "always" in Guelph and Wellington, whereas **23%** feel welcome only "sometimes", "rarely", or "never".

43% respondents find it easy to meet others and build social relationships, while **22%** find it difficult.

Connection and Participation



81%
reported having
friends from
different cultures

66% of respondents indicated that they have access to community spaces for cultural events.

Volunteer involvement varies: some feel connected and engaged in the community, others are limited by awareness of volunteer opportunities, poor response to applications, or the need to financially support their families.