

# Data Sheet 21 (DS 021)

## Sense of Belonging in the Community

### What are we monitoring?

Proportion of residents agreeing that they feel they belong in the community – as measured by the Councils bi-annual Community Survey of a representative sample of residents.

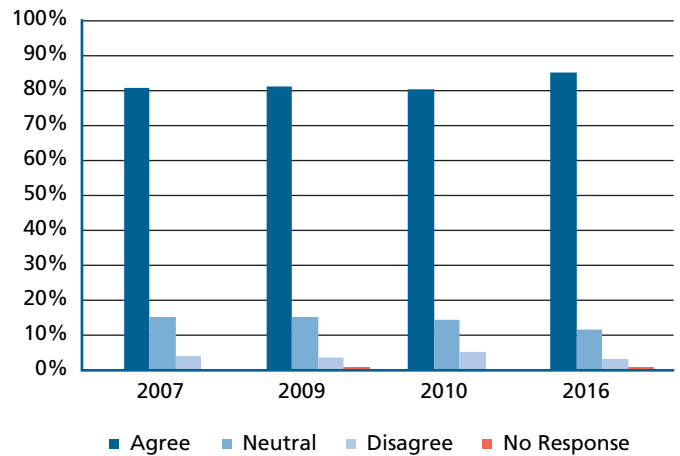
### What is the trend?

The proportion of residents who agree that they feel they belong in the community has risen from 80.2% in 2010 to 85.2% in 2016. Overall, the vast majority of Blue Mountains residents have a strong sense that they belong in their local community.

### Why is monitoring this trend important?

Having a sense of belonging contributes to individual well-being and positive self-identity. This feeling also underlies community strength in times of celebration and in times of adversity and crisis. Fostering a sense of belonging is an essential part of building an inclusive and healthy community.

Proportion of Blue Mountains Residents who agree "they feel they belong in the community"



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Year	2007	2009	2010	2016
Agree	80.5%	80.9%	80.2%	85.20%
Neutral	15.2%	15.2%	14.5%	11.50%
Disagree	4.1%	3.5%	5.3%	3.30%
No Response	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.30%
Mean Rating	4.20	4.20	4.18	4.37

Source: Blue Mountains City Council Community Surveys 2007–2016