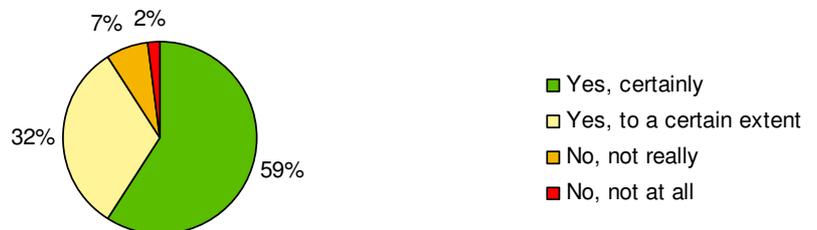


## Internationals on Amsterdam, First analysis of International Panel research

In general, internationals are happy in Amsterdam: they give the city an average grade of 8 out of 10. Personal social life in Amsterdam receives a slightly lower score: an average grade of 7 out of 10. Neither average is affected by the age group of the respondent or how long they have been in the Netherlands.

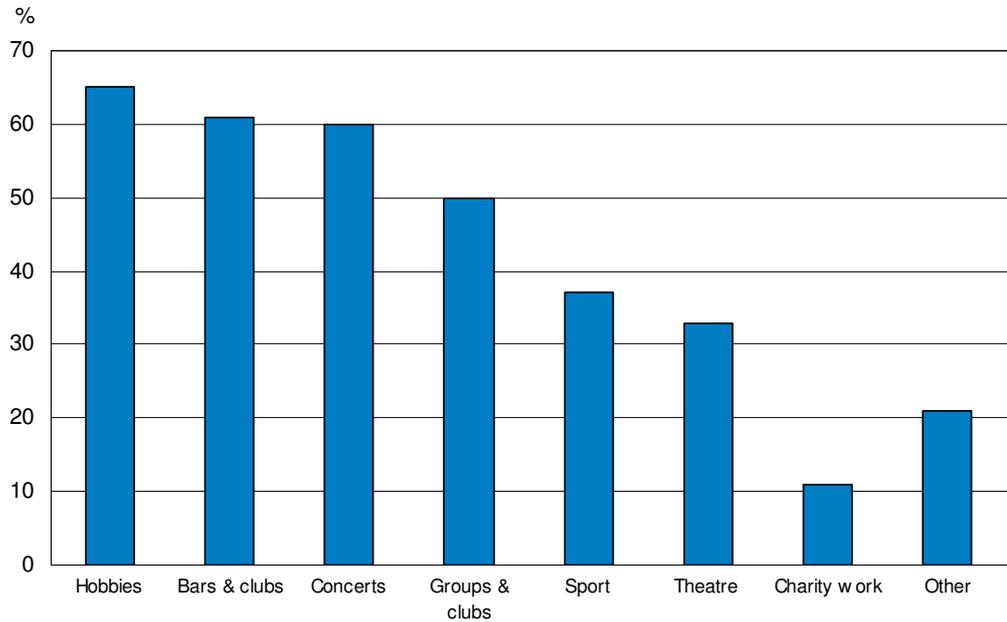
6 out of 10 respondents report that Amsterdam is without doubt a welcoming city for internationals and 1/3 think this is true to a certain extent. 10% think the city is either not welcoming to a certain extent or not at all welcoming.

Figure 1 Is Amsterdam a welcoming city for internationals? (n=510, percentages)



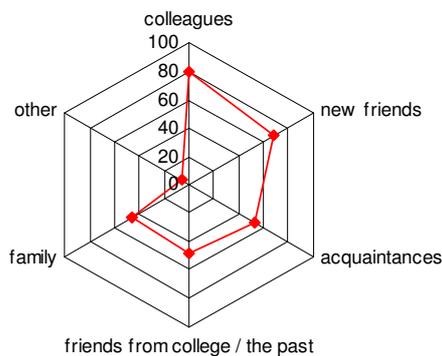
Respondents report that an active socio-cultural life plays an important role in general well-being: 43% of respondents state it as being *important* while 48% think it is *very important*. Hobbies, going to concerts, bars and clubs or participating in groups and clubs are the most common answers given by the respondents when questioned about their socio-cultural life.

**Figure 2 What do internationals do in their spare time? (n=510, percentages, multiple answers possible)**



Colleagues form the largest group within the social network of the majority of respondents (nearly 8 out of 10). In descending order of size, the other groups in the network are new friends, acquaintances, friends from college or the past and family. The social network of 59% of respondents is primarily comprised of other internationals. 3% report a social network consisting of primarily Dutch people and 36% report having a mixed social network.

**Figure 3 Which groups are part of the social network of internationals? (n=510, percentages, multiple answers possible)**



33% of the respondents answered that it is *hard* to integrate into Dutch society, while 16% go as far as saying that it is *very hard*. However, nearly a fifth reports that it is (*very*) *easy* for them to make friends or become familiar with Dutch culture (19%). The majority of

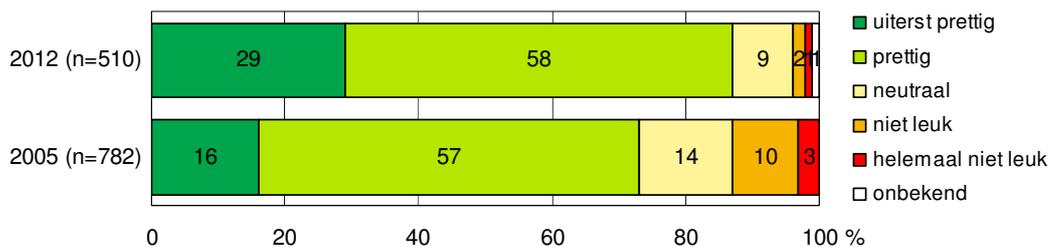
respondents (57%) do not feel integrated in the city while 35% state that they do feel integrated.

Nearly 9 out of 10 respondents state that participating in activities in the city is (very) important for them personally. Nearly 6 out of 10 respondents believe that getting involved in local activities is (very) important for their career or business opportunities.

Just under half (48%) of the participating internationals report receiving a satisfactory amount of information about culture in the city. However, a similar-sized group (47%) report that they receive insufficient information.

3 out of 10 respondents *extremely like* living in Amsterdam and nearly 6 out of 10 *like* living in the city. Very few respondents report disliking living in the city. The factors of age, length of stay in Amsterdam and country of origin have no effect on this. Internationals are slightly more positive about life in Amsterdam compared to 2005 results.

**Figure 4 Overall, how much do internationals like or dislike living in Amsterdam? (percentages)**



Local authorities and governmental agencies could contribute to improving the quality of life of internationals by providing English translations and information in English, facilitating social contact by organising more events and more effectively stimulating integration and mutual respect (8% for each answer).

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