

IHREC ANNUAL POLL 2025

Job no. 25-053477-01
Report by: Jimmy Larsen & Paul Moran

August 2025



Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta
an Duine agus Comhionannas
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission

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1. BACKGROUND & METHODOLOGY

Introduction

A nationally representative sample of n=1,243 adults, 18+ years



Sample Size

Nationally representative sample of n=1,243 adults 18+ years across the Republic of Ireland.



Online Survey

Interviewing was completed using our Acumen Online panel, allowing us to reach a representative sample in a cost and time effective manner.



Quota Controls

Based on CSO/AIMRO data, quotas were implemented on gender, age, region and social class.



Fieldwork Dates

The sample of 1,243 interviews was conducted between 15th of July and the 6th of August 2025
The Margin of Error at its highest point is +/- 2.8%

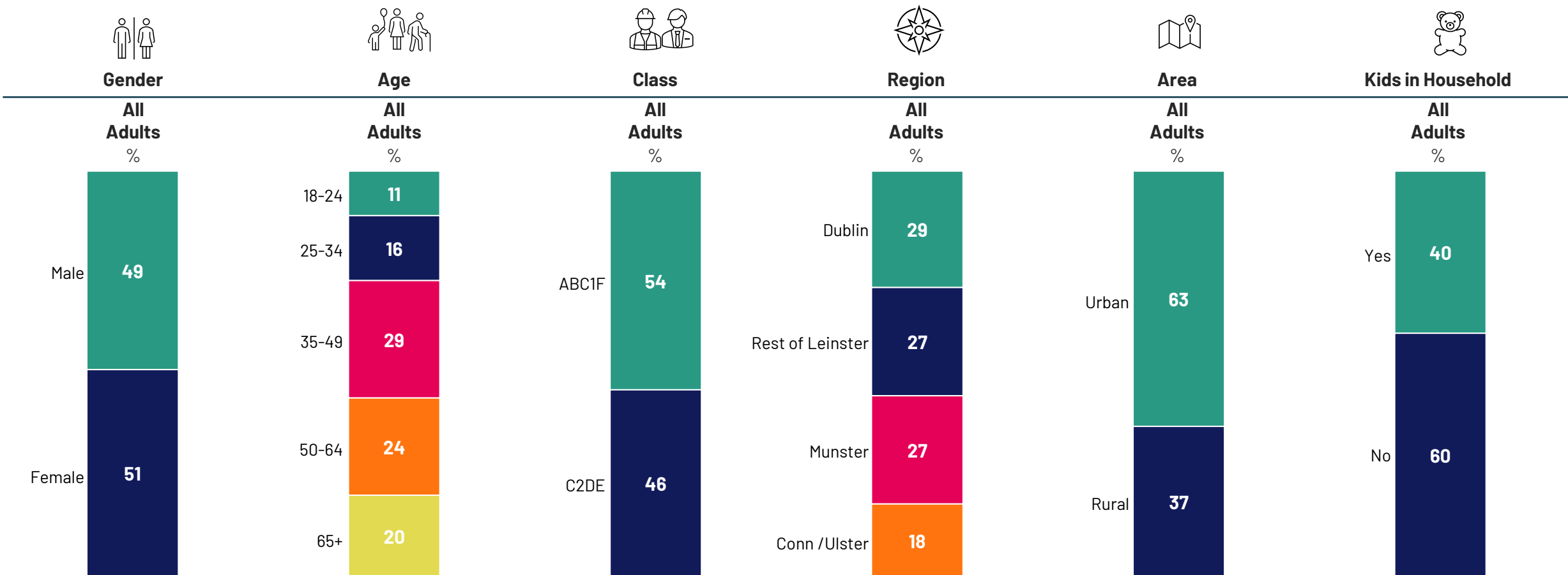


Weighting

Corrective weighting was applied by gender, age, social class and region to ensure a fully representative sample in accordance with latest CSO/AIMRO data.

Profile of respondents

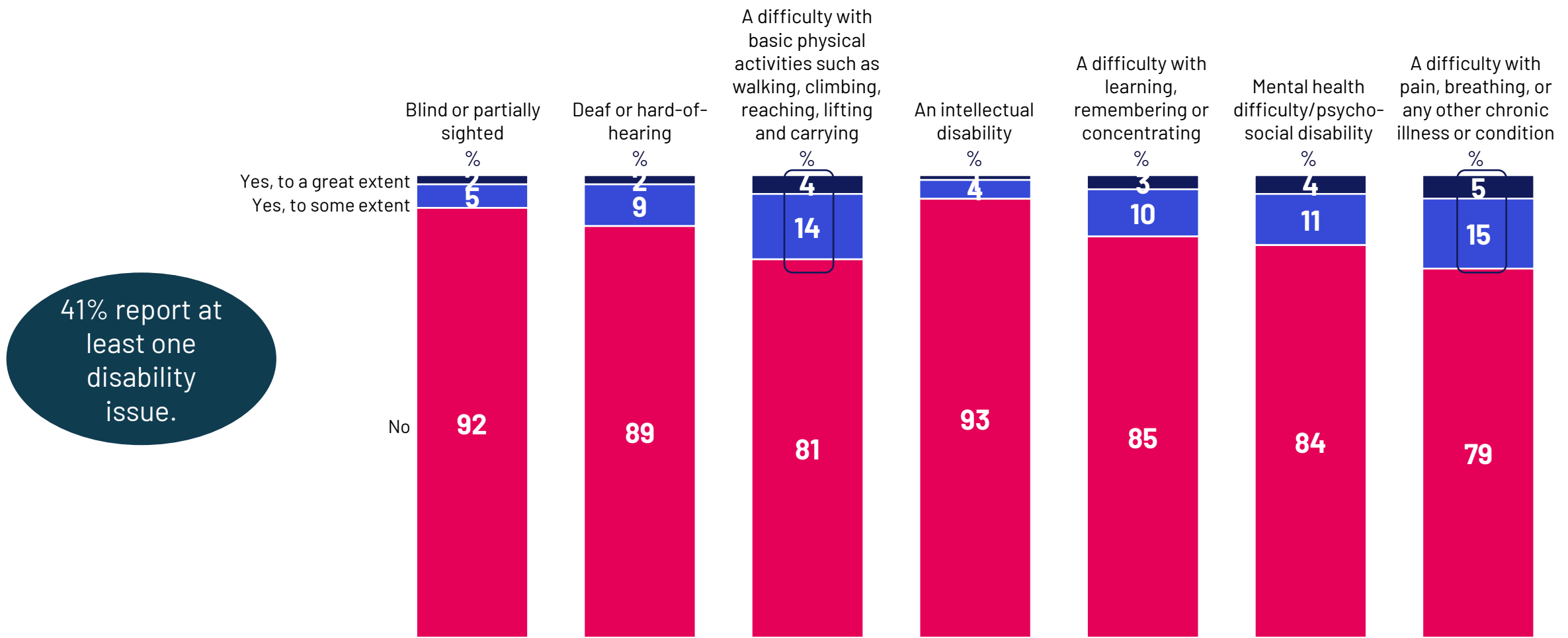
A nationally representative sample of adults, 18+ years, with quotas set on gender, age, social class and region. Although not quota controlled, we achieved 17% (n=212) non-Irish and 5% (n=66) non-white respondents.



Analysis of sample
Base: All respondents aged 18+ - 1,243

Profile of sample – Long lasting disabilities

Just over two in five self-report themselves as having at least one disability, with chronic conditions or mobility issues being most prevalent.

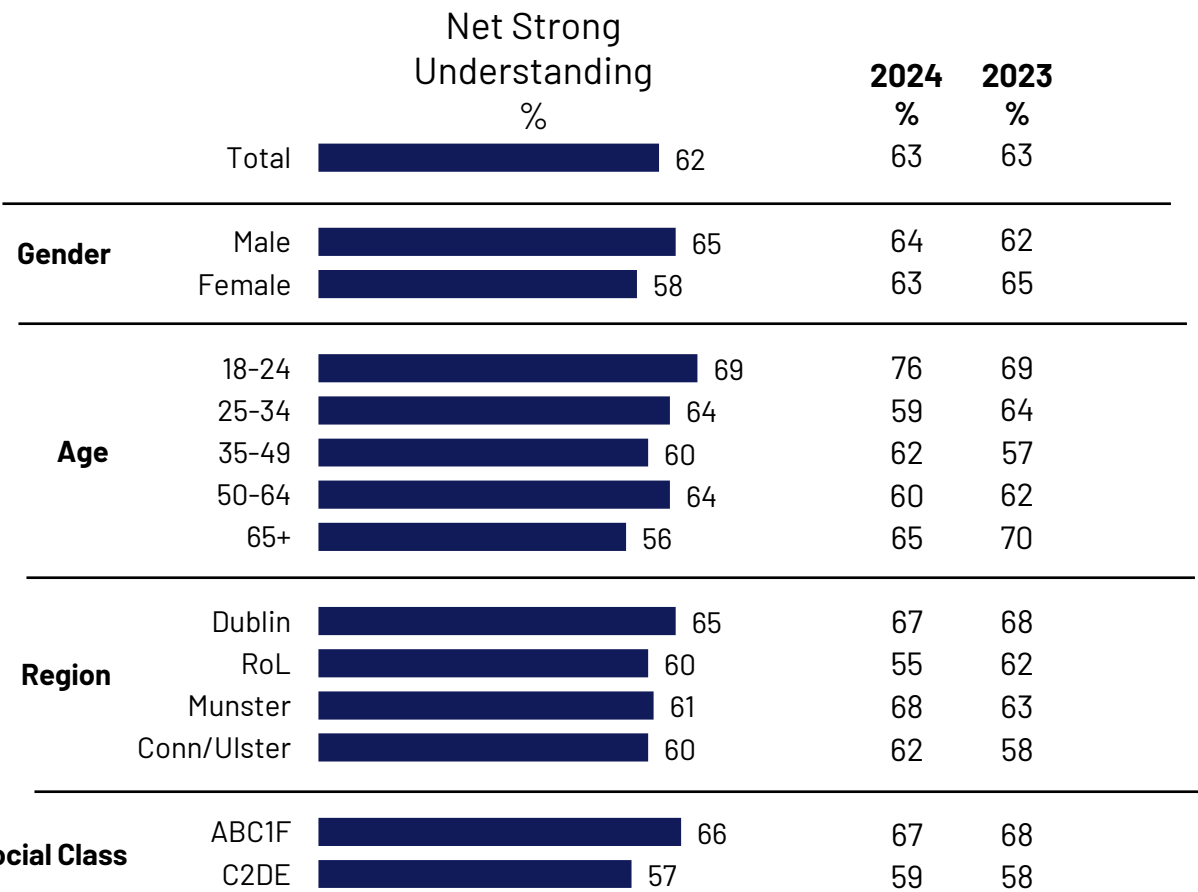
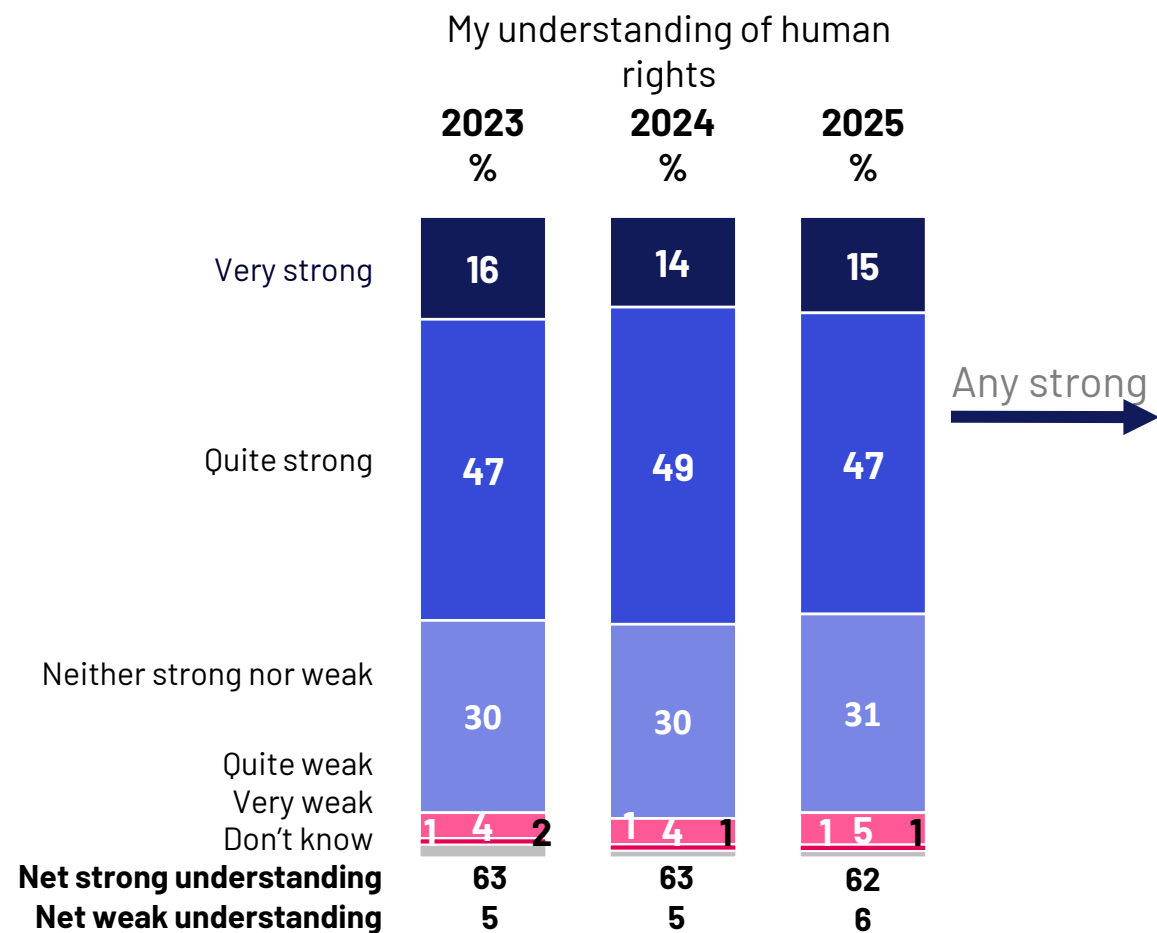


Qc12 Conditions –
Base: All respondents aged 18+ - 1,243

2. HUMAN RIGHTS

Understanding of Human Rights

Almost two in three (62%) claim to have a strong understanding of human rights, consistent with previous years. Those most likely to feel that they have a stronger understanding are more likely to be male, 18-24 year olds, the middle classes (ABC1s) or Dubliners. Older respondents (those aged 65+) are less surefooted.



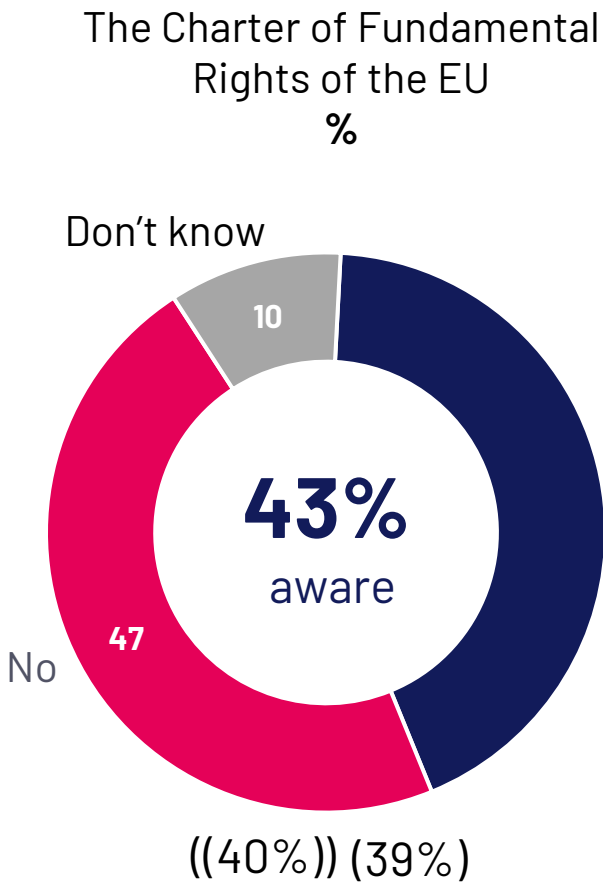
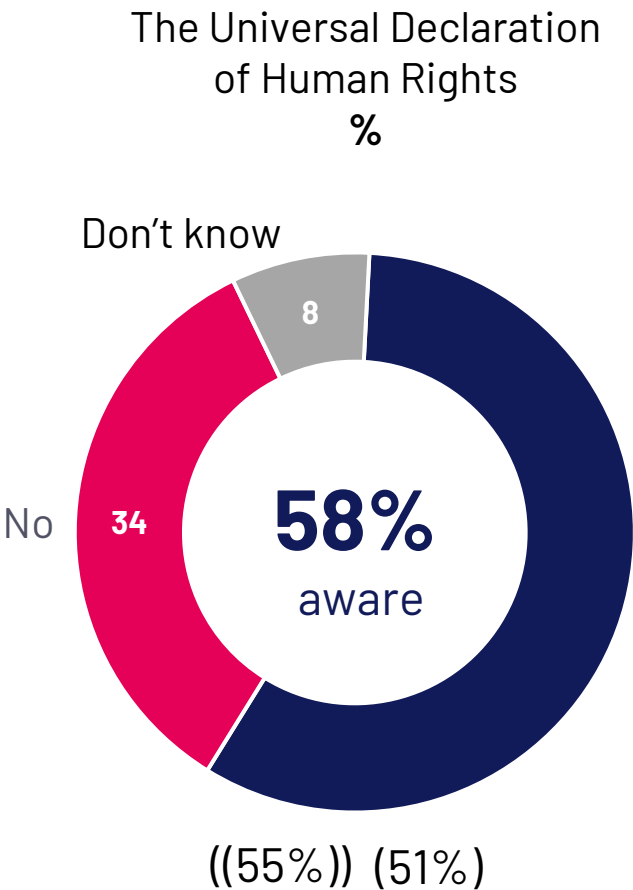
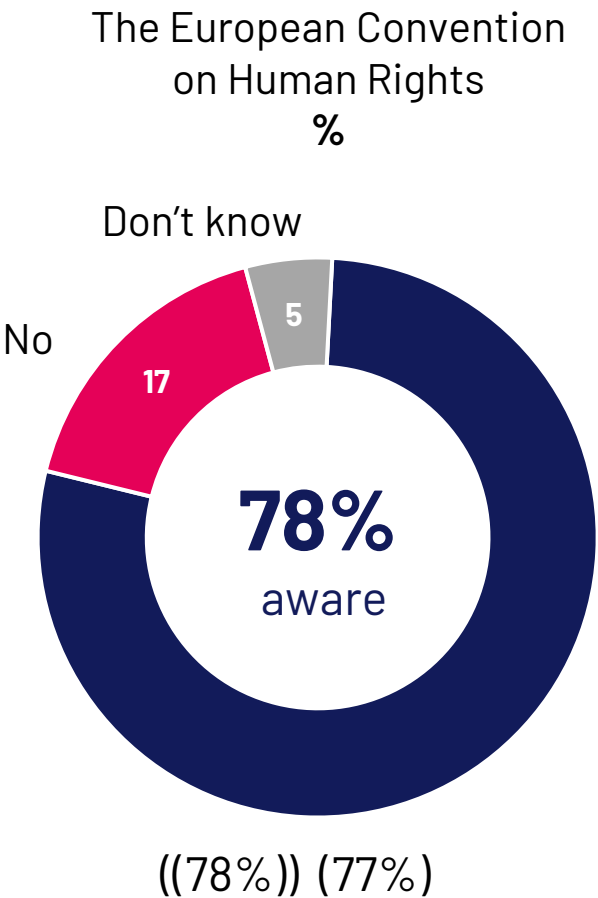
Q1. Which of the following best describes your understanding of human rights.....

Base: All Adults N - 1,243

○ Significantly higher than total
□ Significantly lower than total

Prompted awareness of key Human Rights treaties

Awareness is highest (and stable) for the European Conventions on Human Rights, whereas other treaties are less well known. Awareness of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights continues to rise, and there has been a modest increase in awareness of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU.



Q.2 Have you heard of the following key human rights treaties?
Base: All Adults N - 1,243

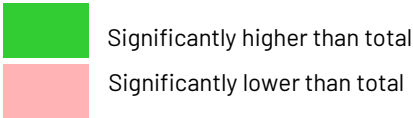
Prompted awareness of key Human Rights treaties – by demographics

There are distinct gender differences in terms of treaty awareness, with Males tend to be more confident. The middle classes are also more conscious of various international treaties. The European Convention on Human Rights is most salient among those aged 50+.

	Total	Gender		Age					Region				Class	
		Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Dublin	RoL	Munster	Conn/ Ulster	ABC1F	C2DE
Base:	1243	611	627	115	196	378	298	256	382	322	308	231	653	590
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
The European Convention on Human Rights	78	81	76	65	68	77	84	90	80	81	76	76	82	74
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights	58	63	53	66	63	58	55	55	60	57	60	53	66	49
The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU	43	50	37	48	45	42	42	43	46	45	42	38	50	35

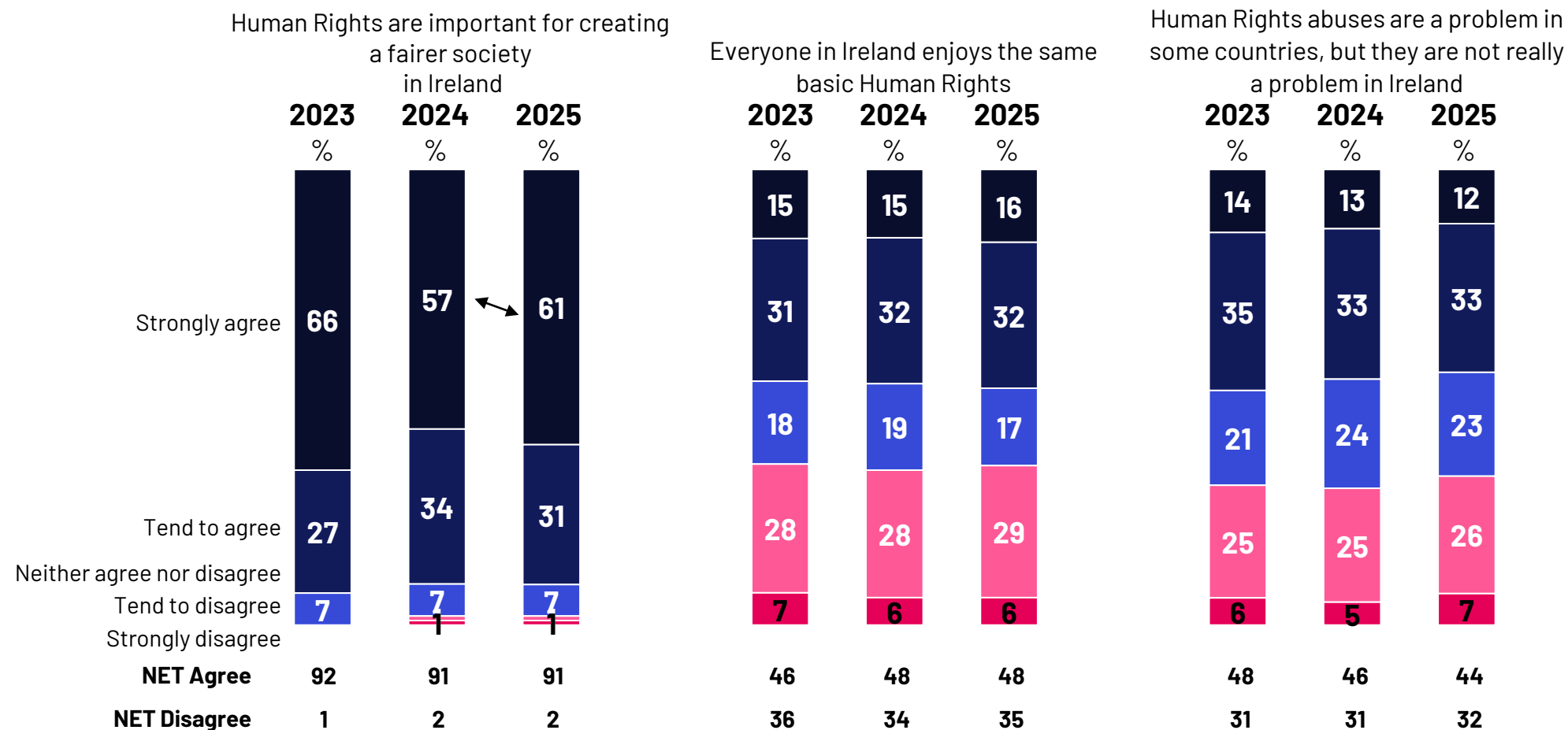
Q.2 Have you heard of the following key human rights treaties?

Base: All Adults N - 1,243



Attitudinal statements towards Human Rights in Ireland

More than nine in 10 (92%) agree that human rights are important for creating a fairer society in Ireland, similar to previous years. Three in five strongly agree on this issue. Almost half (44%) feel that human rights abuses are not really a problem in Ireland, compared to a third who believe there are issues. The jury is also out on how universal human rights are in Ireland.



Q3 Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements....

Base: All Adults N 1,243

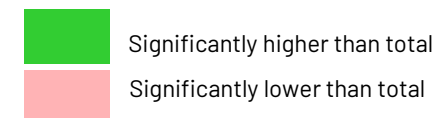
Attitudinal statements towards Human Rights in Ireland – by demographics

Females are more likely to feel that human rights abuses are inequitable in Ireland, but they think they are more of an issue in other countries. The oldest cohort are significantly more prone to recognise the importance of human rights.

NET AGREE	Total	Gender		Age					Region				Class	
		Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Dublin	RoL	Munster	Conn/ Ulster	ABC1F	C2DE
Base:	1243	611	627	115	196	378	298	256	382	322	308	231	653	590
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Human Rights are important for creating a fairer society in Ireland	91	89	93	90	88	91	92	95	90	96	90	88	92	90
Everyone in Ireland enjoys the same basic Human Rights	48	57	39	49	48	49	44	50	51	48	47	43	51	44
Human Rights abuses are a problem in some countries, but they are not really a problem in Ireland	44	56	34	53	49	45	38	42	47	43	46	38	47	41

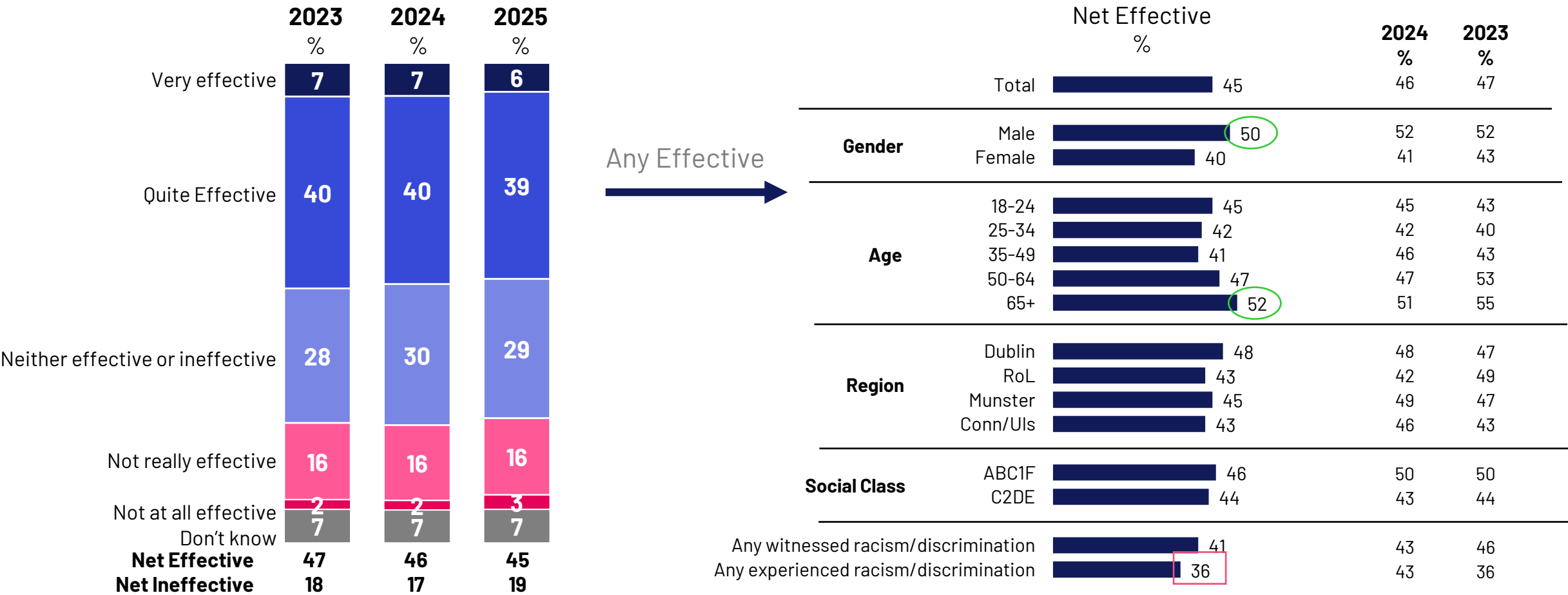
Q3 Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements....

Base: All Adults N 1,243



Effectiveness of efforts made in Ireland to fight Human Rights abuses

Less than half are convinced of the effectiveness of efforts to fight Human Rights abuses in Ireland – just 45% are convinced. There has been little variation made on this metric over the past three years. Females are least persuaded, and there are generational differences – older people are more complimentary.



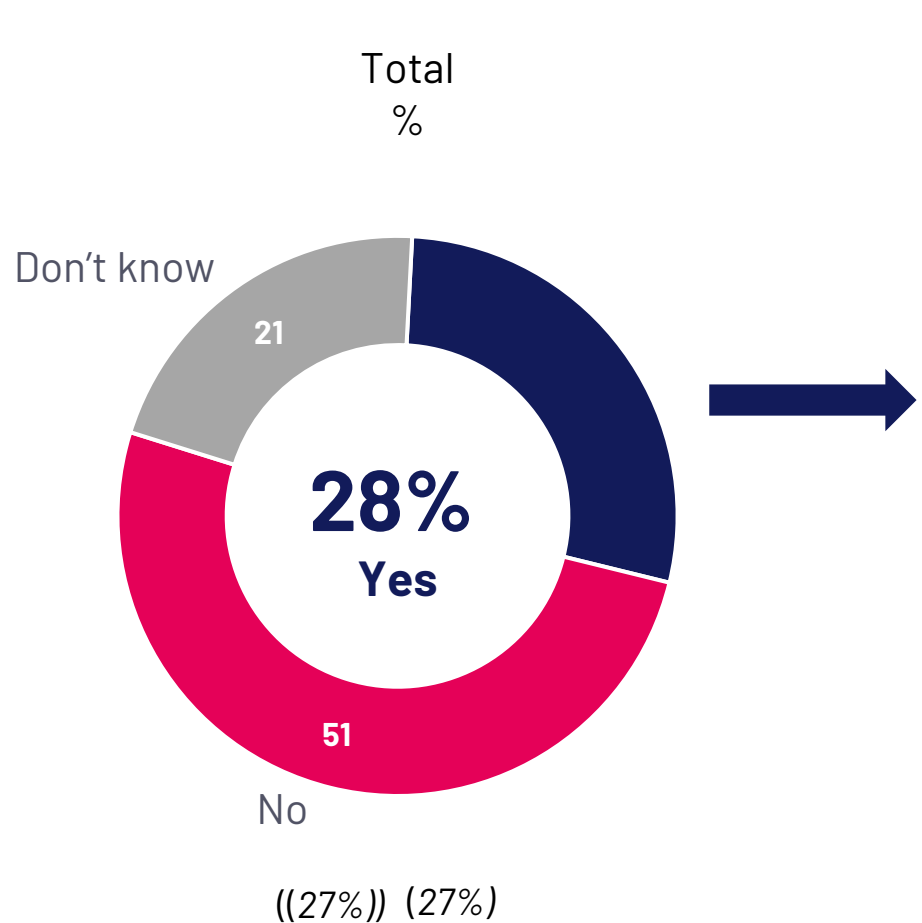
Q4 Using a scale from 1 to 5, please tell us if you think that the efforts made in Ireland to fight human rights abuses are effective.
Base: All Adults N 1,243

○ Significantly higher than total
□ Significantly lower than total



Knowledge of who to contact if Human Rights were violated

Just under three in four (72%) are not aware or do not know who to contact if their human rights were violated. Claimed awareness is higher among Males, the youngest and oldest cohorts and the middle classes.



		Yes %	2024 %	2023 %
	Total	28	27	27
Gender	Male	31	31	30
	Female	25	23	25
Age	18-24	36	41	32
	25-34	26	16	22
	35-49	25	23	23
	50-64	28	24	30
	65+	31	39	31
Region	Dublin	30	30	31
	RoL	32	25	25
	Munster	27	30	25
	Conn/Ulster	22	23	26
Social Class	ABC1F	30	29	31
	C2DE	26	26	23

Q5a If you, or someone close to you, felt that your human rights were being violated, would you know who to contact for support?
Base: All Adults N – 1,243

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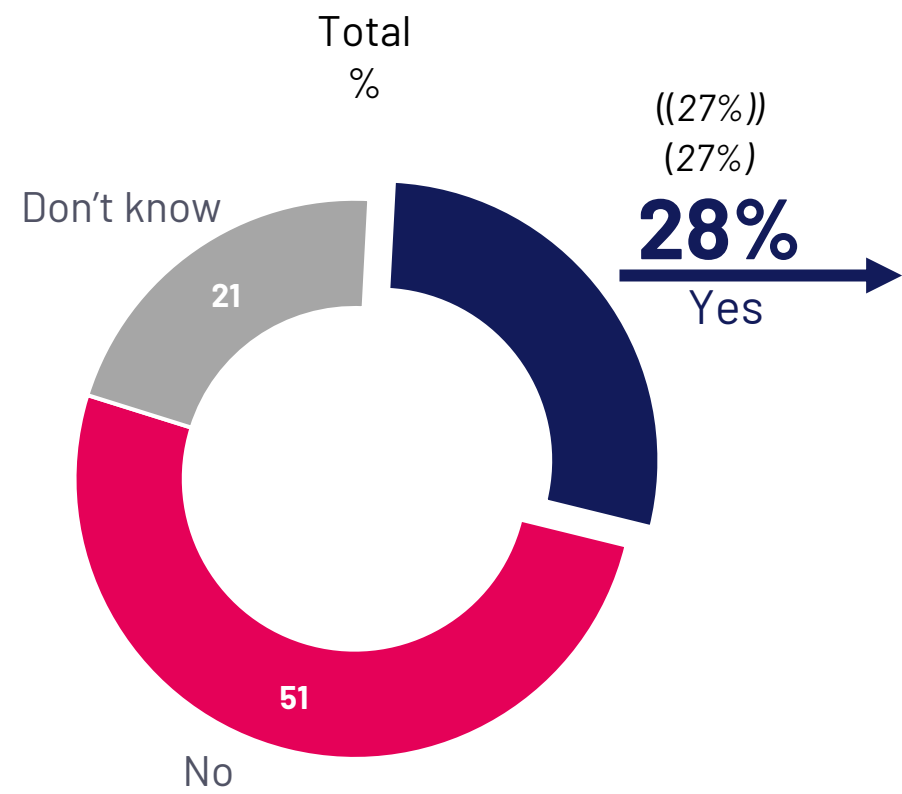
(()) Figs in brackets = 2024
() Figs in brackets = 2023

Significantly higher than total
Significantly lower than total



Who to contact?

Of those who claim to know who to contact, two in five (39%) would contact the Gardai directly, while seven percent nominate the IHREC by name (although a further eight percent mention the “Equality Commission”). Combined, this is akin to both 2023 and 2024 results.



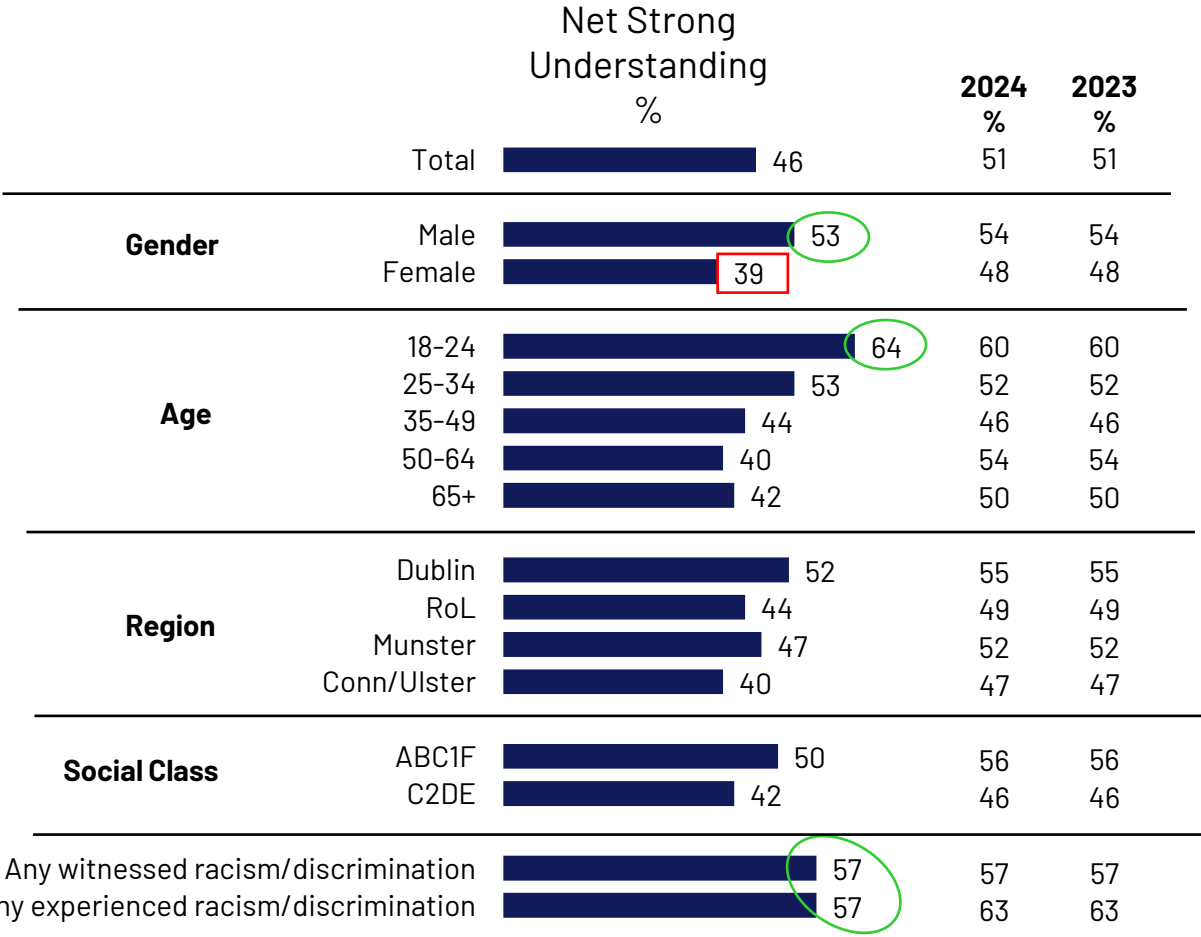
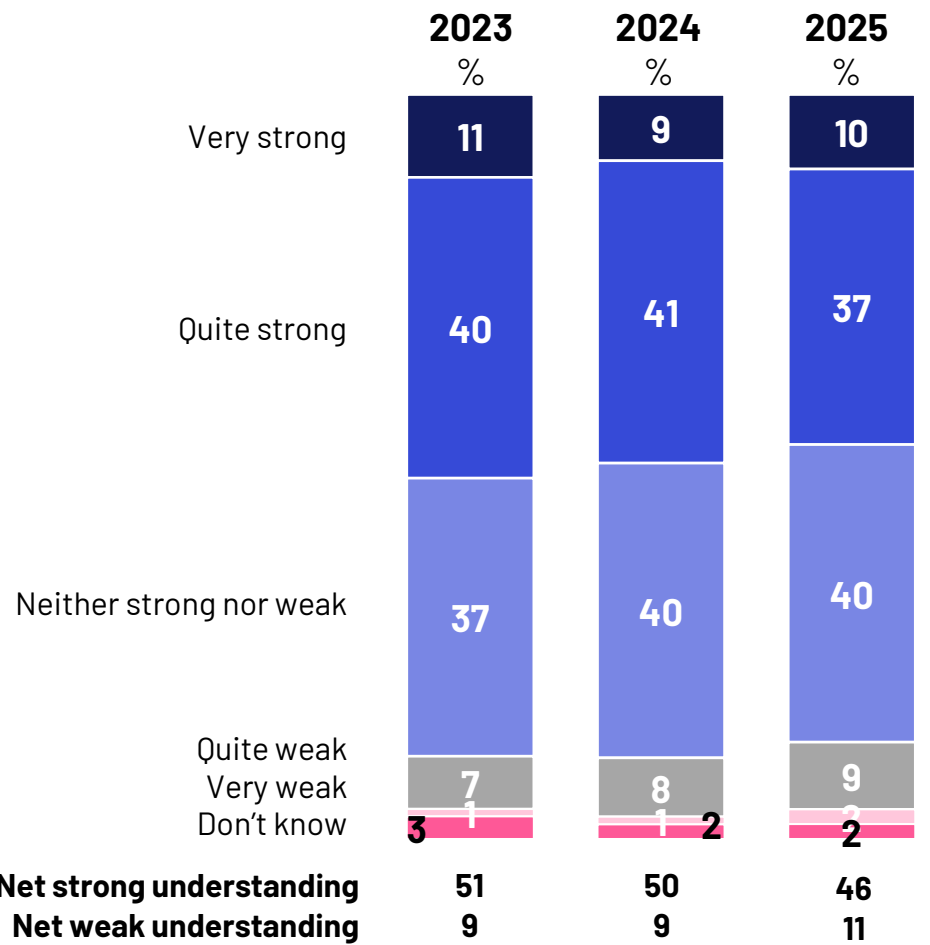
Who to Contact		%		2024	2023
				%	%
Gardai	39			31	28
Human Rights Council	18			-	-
Citizens Advice	11			14	9
Solicitor	8			6	4
Human rights/equality commission	8			3	2
IHREC	7			13	12
Local TD, Political Party	7			8	5
Government Organisation	6			4	1
Ombudsman	4			2	1
Dept of Justice/Equality/foreign affairs	3			2	3
Council for Civil Liberties	2			3	1
Use Google	2			3	1
Depends on situation	2			2	-
Amnesty International	1			4	7
HSE	1			4	2
Council for Civil Rights	1			-	-
Tusla	1			3	-
Women's aid/refuge	1			1	-
Childline	1			1	-
Parents/family/friends	1			2	-
United Nations (UN)	1			-	-
Unicef	0			-	-
Other	3			5	11
None / DK	4			5	6

Q5b Who or which agency/service would you contact? Anybody else?
Base: All who knew who to contact N - 350

3. EQUALITY & DISCRIMINATION

Understanding of equality and anti-discrimination measures

Just under half think they have a very or quite strong understanding of equality and anti-discrimination measures in Ireland, with one in 10 (11%) feeling less self-assured. Those most confident are significantly more likely to be Male, aged 18-24 or have witnessed/experienced racism. Middle classes (ABC1s) also claim to have a greater understanding.



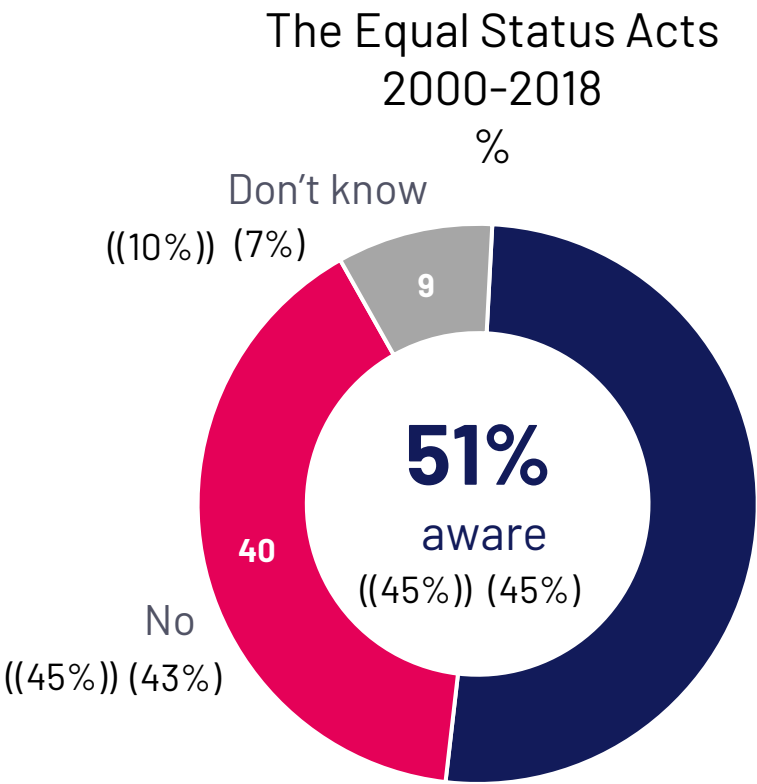
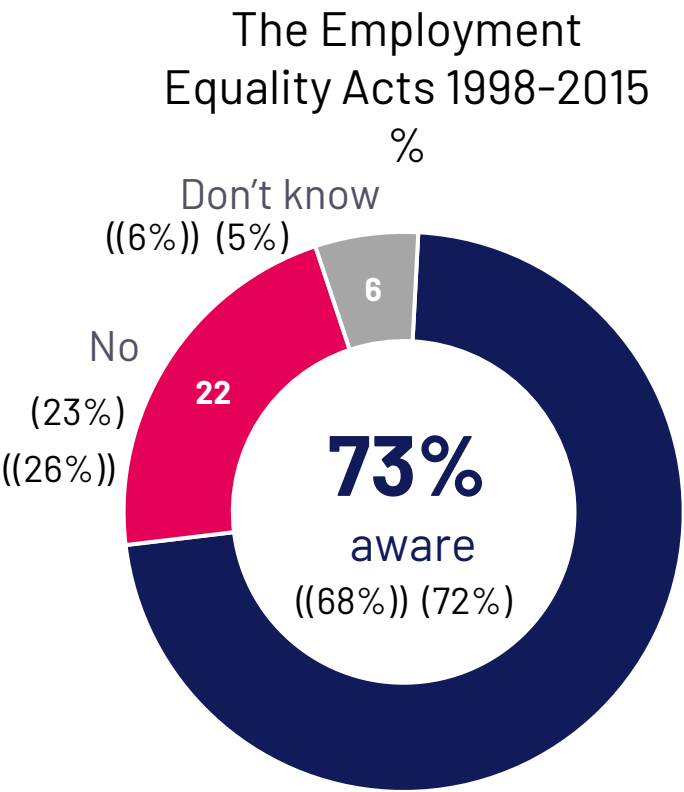
Q6. Which of the following best describes your understanding of equality and anti-discrimination measures in Ireland?
“My understanding of equality and anti discrimination measures in Ireland generally is.....”

Base: All Adults N – 1,243

○ Significantly higher than total
□ Significantly lower than total

Prompted awareness of Irish equality and discrimination laws

Nearly three in four (73%) are aware of the Employment Equality Acts 1998-2015 (a recovery of five points year-on-year). Just over half are conscious of the Equal Status Acts 2000-2018 – the highest level seen so far.



Q7 Have you heard of either of the following Irish equality and discrimination laws?
Base: All Adults N – 1,243

Prompted awareness of Irish equality & discrimination laws – by demographics

The older age cohorts continue to be most likely to be aware of Irish equality and discrimination laws.

		Total	Gender		Age					Region				Class	
			Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Dublin	RoL	Munster	Conn/ Ulster	ABC1F	C2DE
Base:		1243	611	627	115	196	378	298	256	382	322	308	231	653	590
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
The Employment Equality Acts 1998-2015	2025	73	73	72	67	68	68	77	80	72	74	75	66	80	64
	2024	68	65	71	63	63	63	73	77	67	69	70	67	69	68
	2023	72	70	74	67	65	69	75	82	72	74	74	65	74	70
The Equal Status Acts 2000-2018	2025	51	56	45	52	50	46	52	55	53	54	51	40	57	44
	2024	45	46	44	46	38	41	46	54	46	44	46	43	48	42
	2023	50	51	49	43	47	46	53	59	48	48	54	49	55	45

Q7 Have you heard of either of the following Irish equality and discrimination laws?

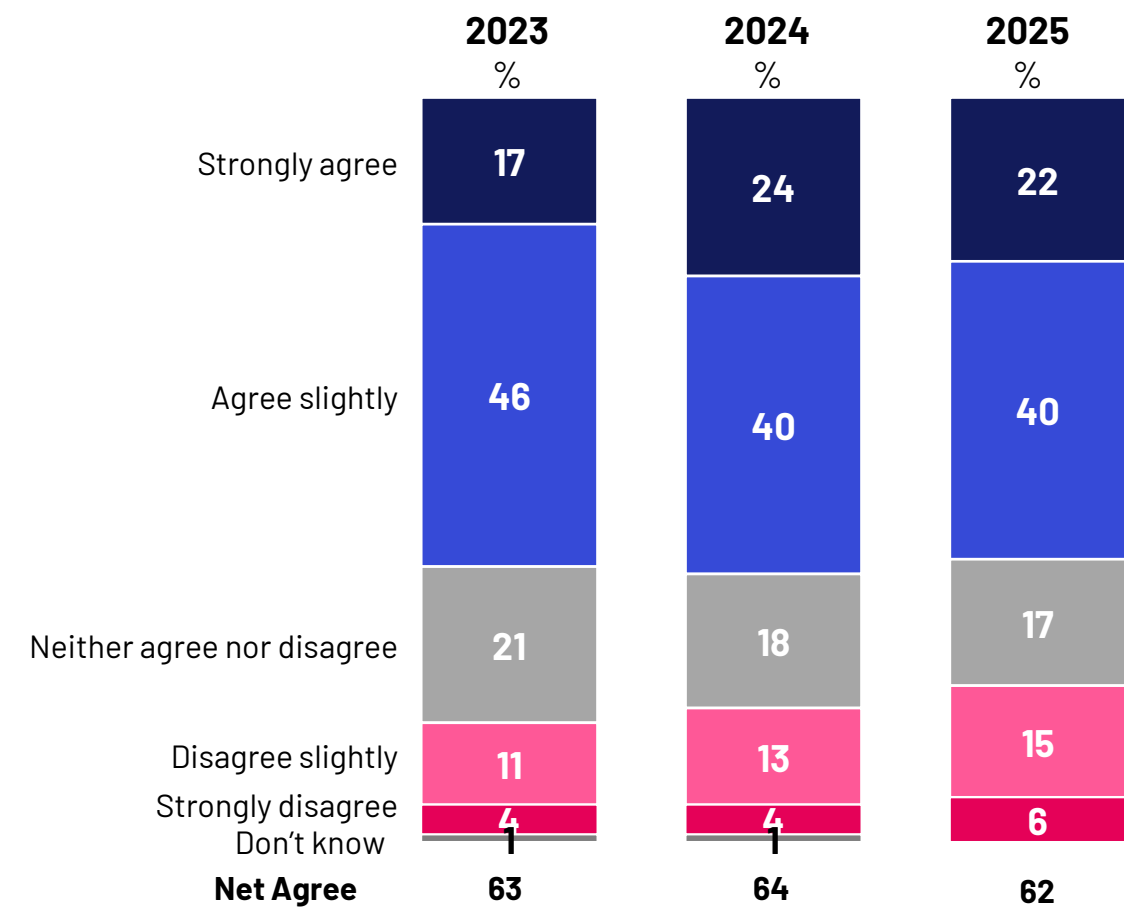
Base: All Adults N – 1,243

Significantly higher than total
Significantly lower than total



Are there equal opportunities for getting ahead in life, like everyone else?

Just over three in five (62%) feel they have equal opportunities, representing a marginal decrease since 2024. In addition, over one in five (21%) actively disagree with this sentiment – the highest level seen so far.



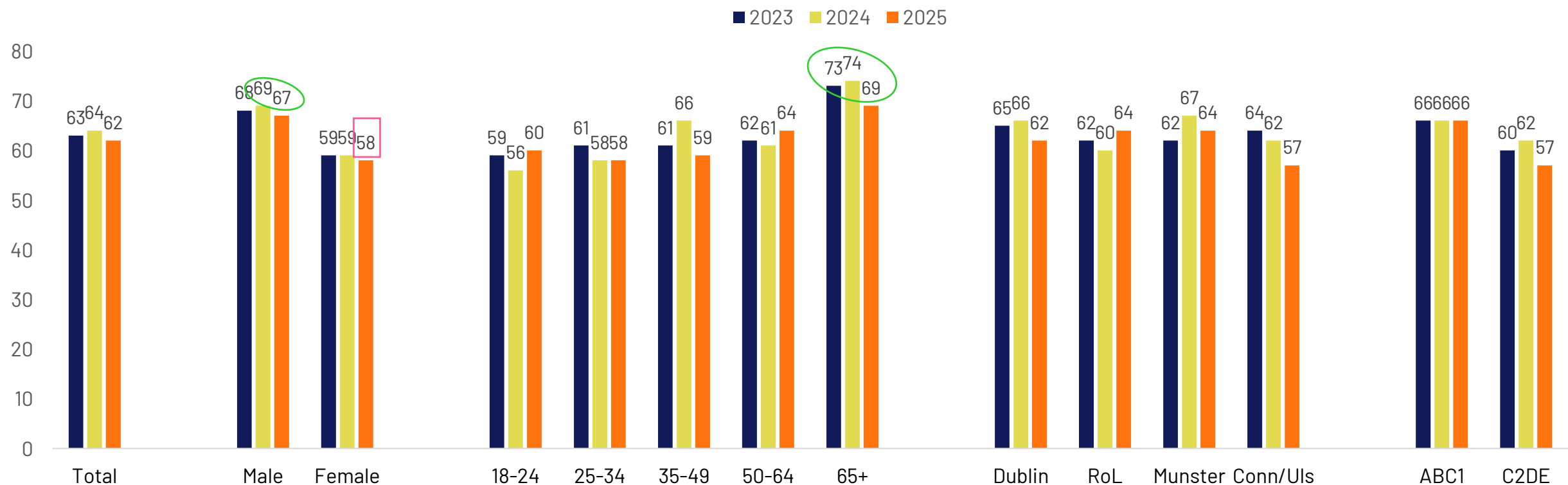
“Nowadays in Ireland, I have equal opportunities for getting ahead in life, like everyone else”

Q8 Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements.

Access to equal opportunities in Ireland- by demographics

Males and those aged over 65 are more likely to believe in they have equal opportunities in Ireland.

“Nowadays in Ireland, I have equal opportunities for getting ahead in life, like everyone else”



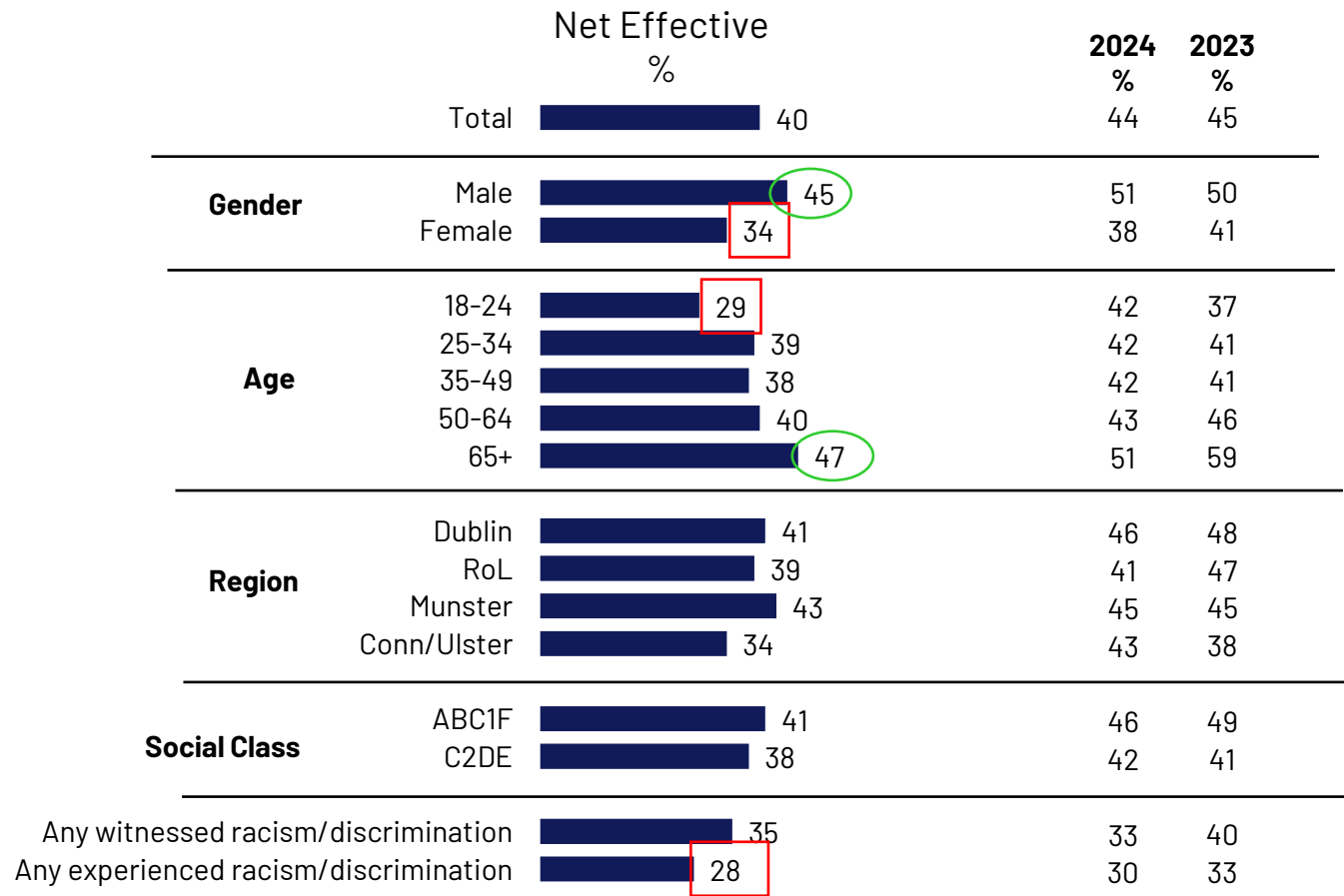
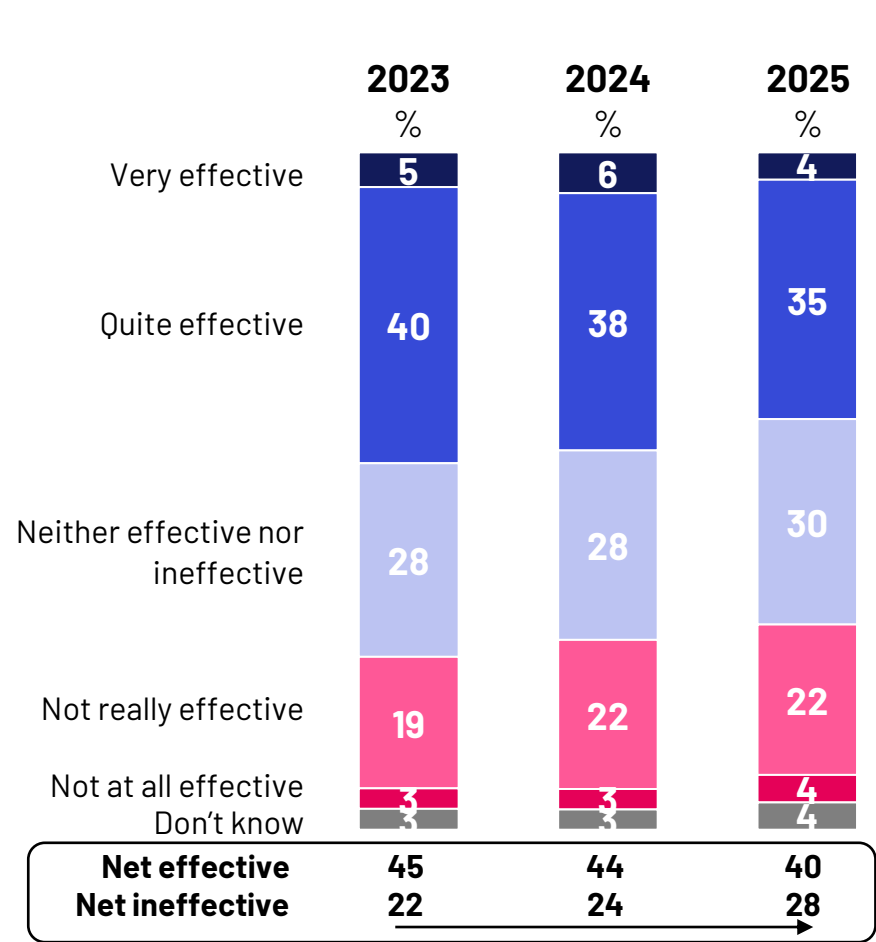
Q8 Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements.

Base: All Adults N - 1,243

○ Significantly higher than total
□ Significantly lower than total

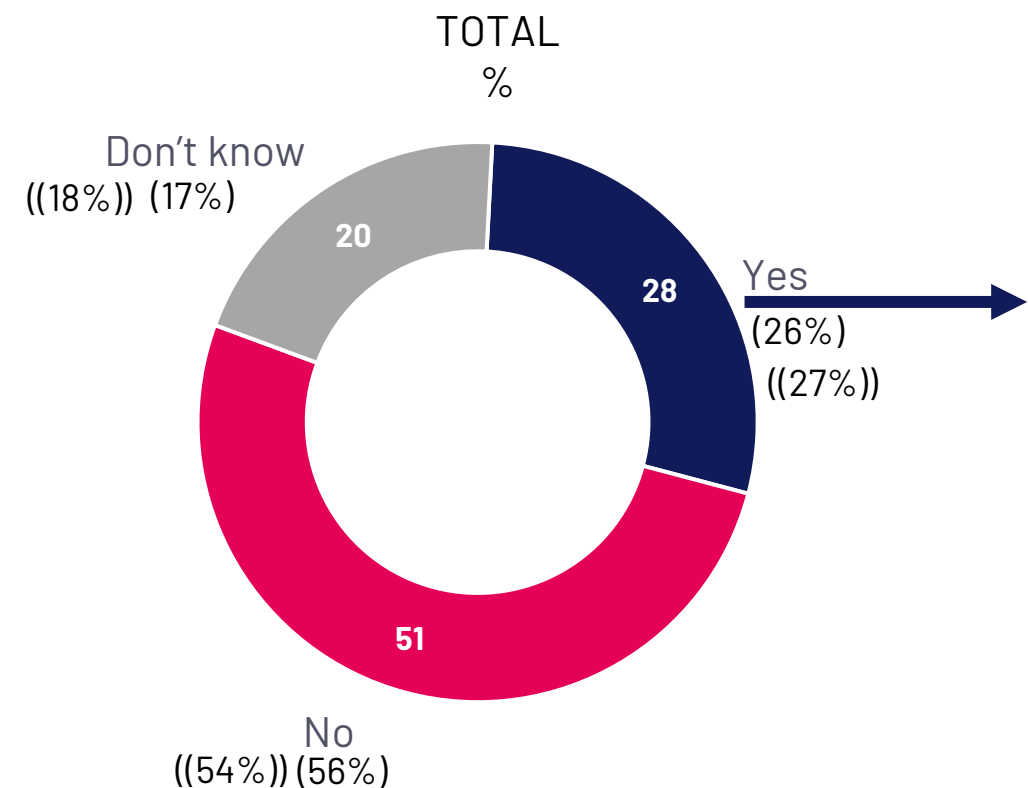
Effectiveness of efforts made in Ireland to fight discrimination

Just two in five feel that the efforts made in Ireland to fight all forms of discrimination are effective, with 28% feeling the efforts are not effective. Perceived ineffectiveness has increased year-on-year. Females, those aged 18-24 and those who have experienced racism/discrimination in the past 12 months are less likely to say efforts have been successful.



Knowledge of who to contact if discriminated against

Just over one in four (28%) state they would know who to contact if discriminated against. There has been little movement on this metric over the past two years.



		Yes %	2024 %	2023 %
Total		28	27	26
Gender	Male	34	30	29
	Female	23	25	24
Age	18-24	37	40	31
	25-34	24	15	21
	35-49	27	23	23
	50-64	26	26	27
	65+	32	38	33
Region	Dublin	31	31	27
	RoL	29	21	25
	Munster	27	29	28
	Conn/Ulster	24	28	24
Social Class	ABC1F	31	29	29
	C2DE	25	25	23
Any witnessed racism/discrimination		35	34	34
Any experienced racism/discrimination		34	39	34

((2024)) ((2023))

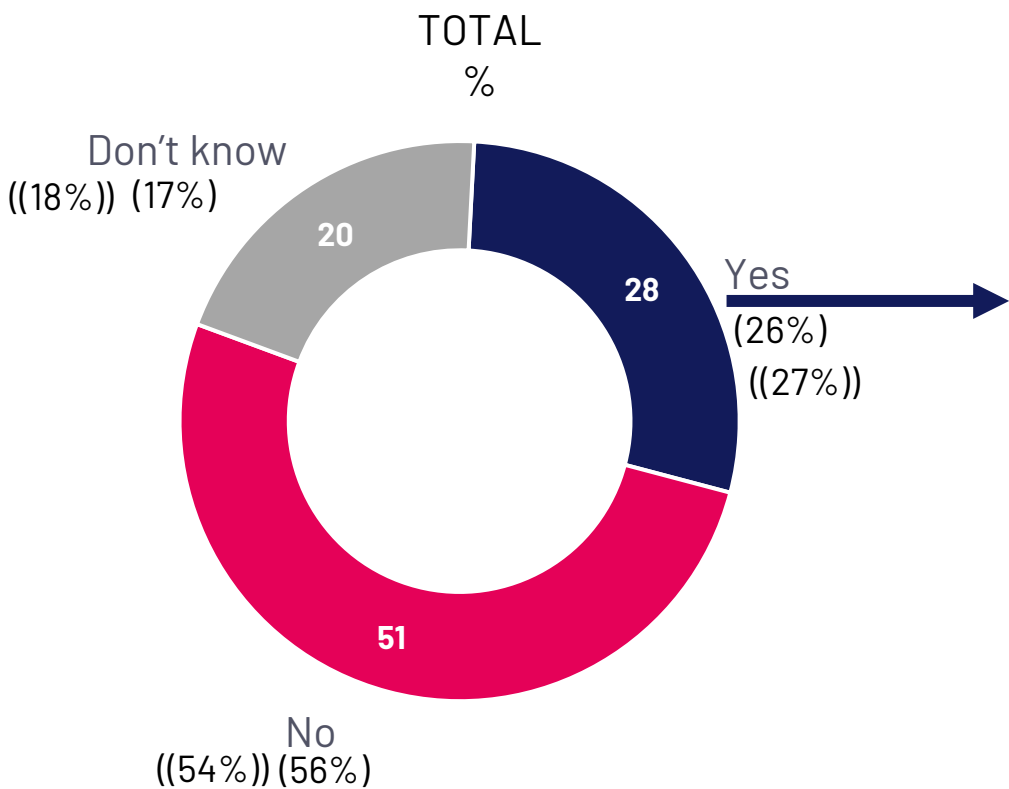
Q10a If you, or someone close to you, felt that you were being discriminated against, would you know who to contact for support?

Base: All Adults N - 1,243

Significantly higher than total
Significantly lower than total

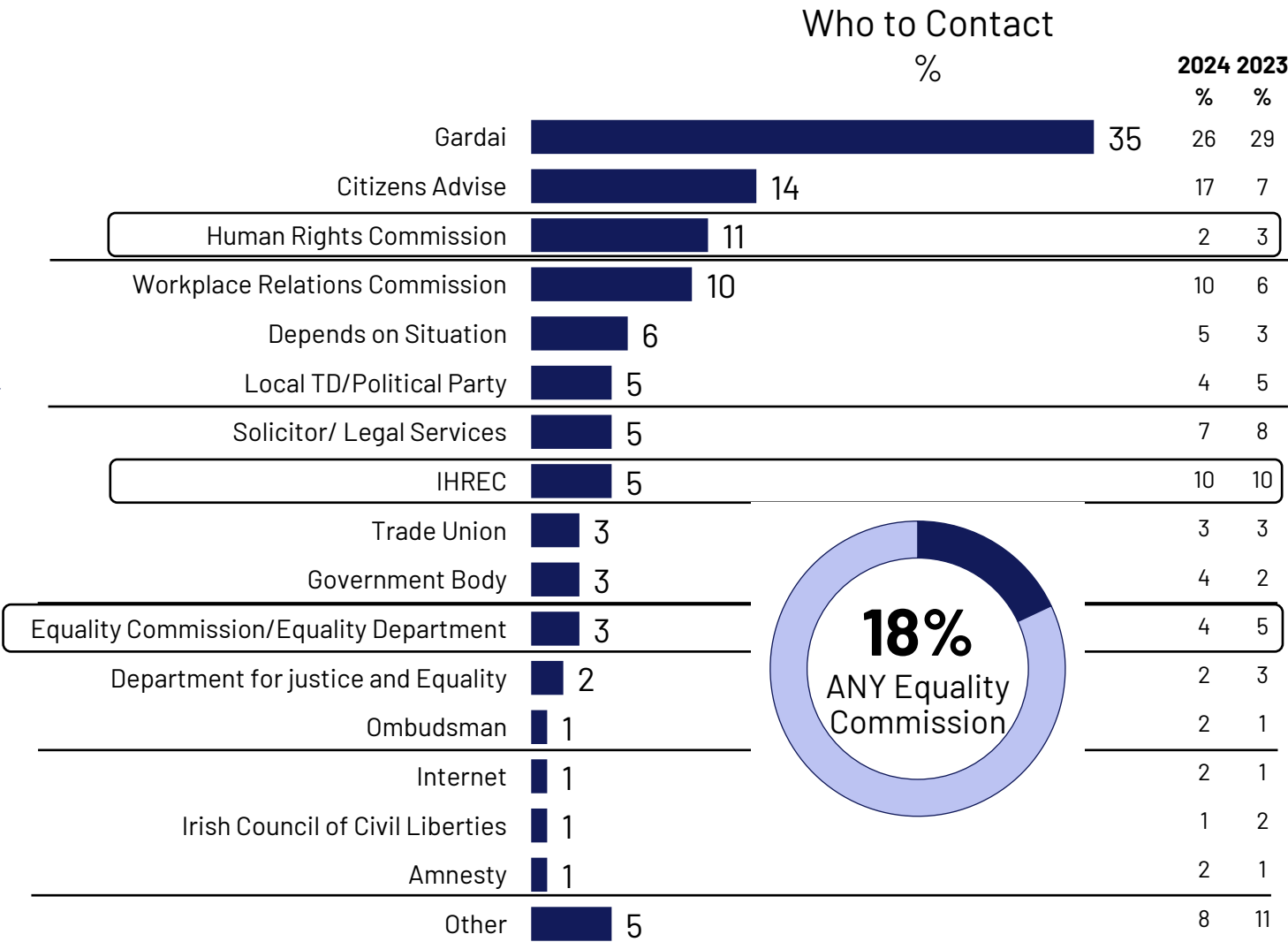
Who to contact?

Of those claiming to know who to contact, over one in three would contact the Gardai, while five percent nominate the IHREC by name.



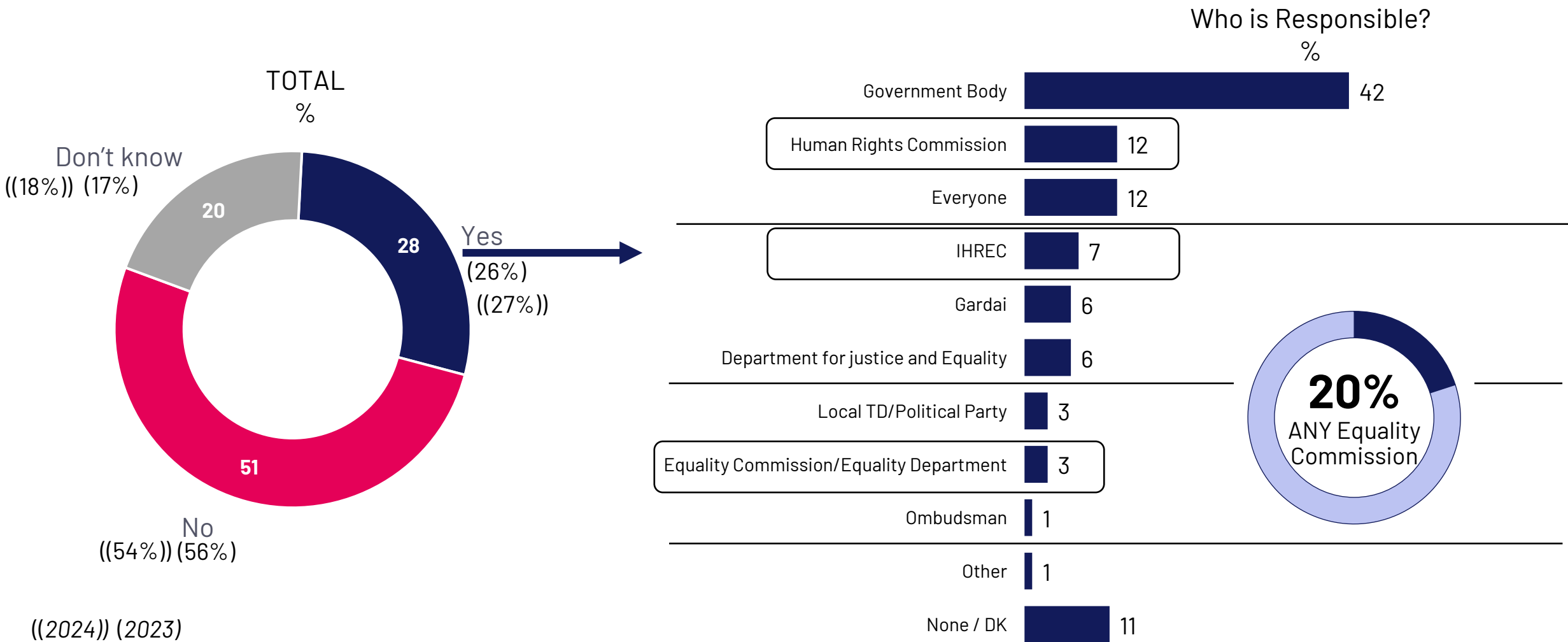
((2024)) ((2023))

Q10b Who or which agency/service would you contact?
Base: All Adults Aware of who to contact N – 353



Responsibility for human rights and equality in Ireland

Two in five feel that the onus is on the Government to ensure the implementation of human rights and equality. One in eight mention “the commission” while seven percent explicitly nominate the IHREC.

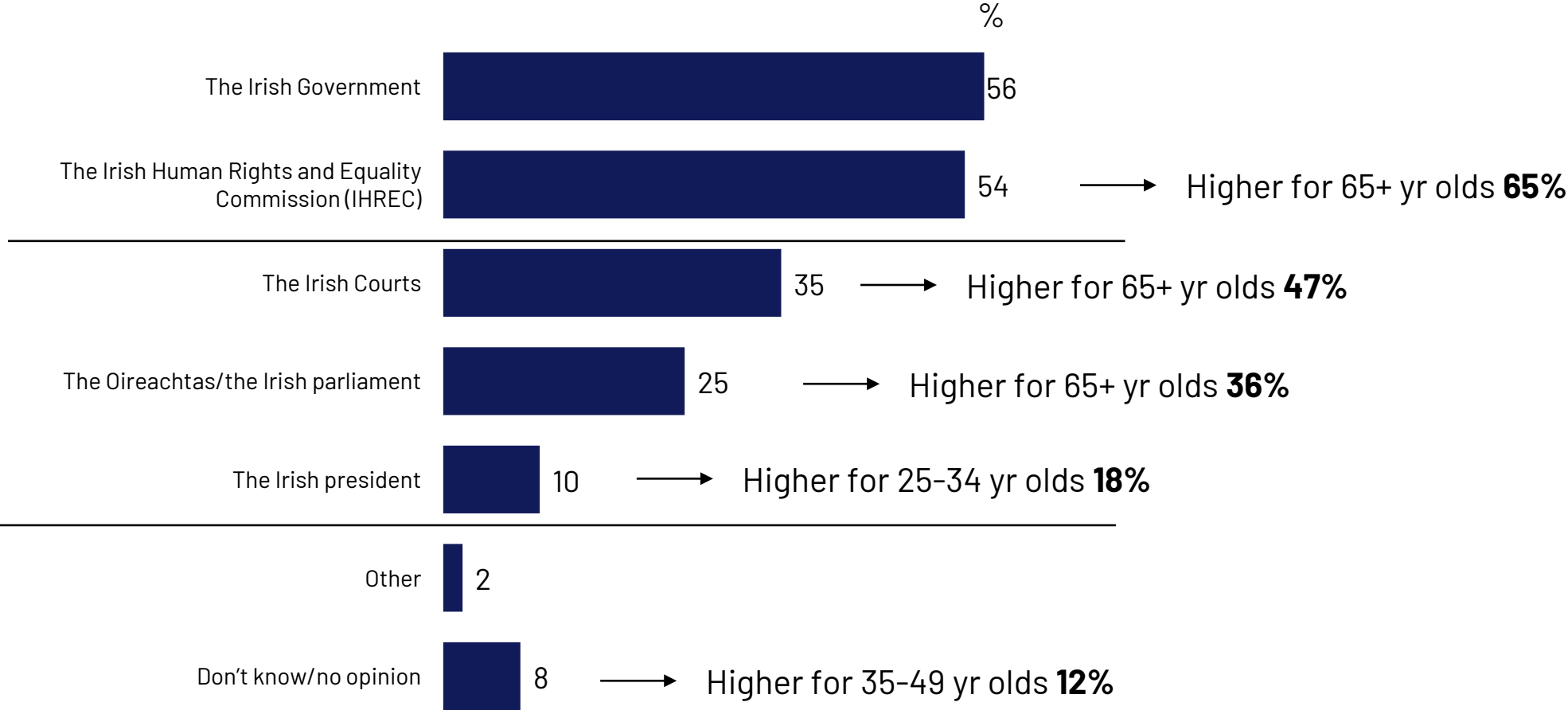


((2024)) ((2023))

Q.10b Who do you think is responsible for human rights/equality in Ireland?
Base: All Adults Aware of who to contact N – 353

Who do the public think is the Human Rights/Equality Leader in Ireland?

When prompted, the IHREC is on a par with the Irish Government as the protector of human rights (within the margin of error), and far ahead of other agencies. This suggests that saliency of the organization needs to be increased.



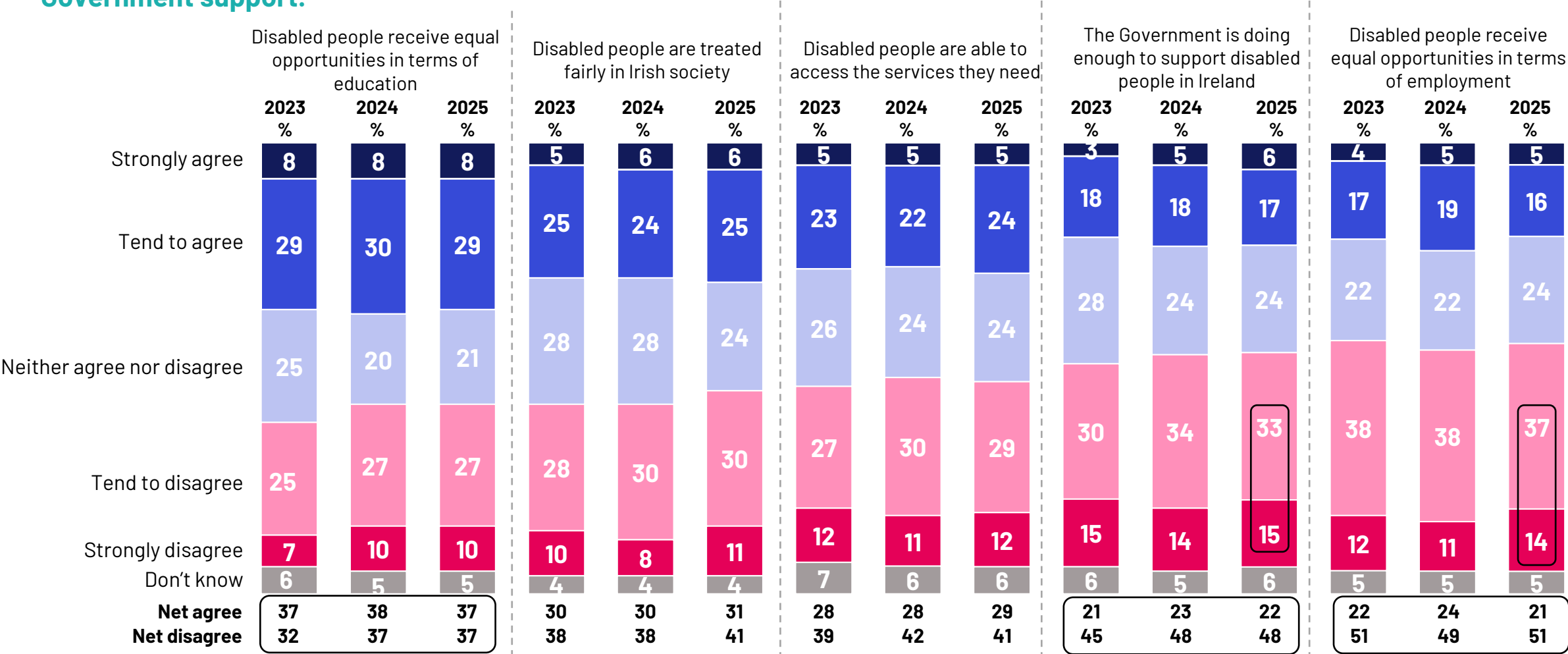
Q10c. Prior to this survey, which of the following did you consider to be the leader/protector of human rights/equality in Ireland?
Base: All Adults N - 1,243

4. DISABILITY



Attitudinal statements towards discrimination due to disability

Opinions are polarised as to whether disabled people receive equal opportunities in education. On all other metrics, the public feel that disabled people are at a disadvantage, and particularly in terms of employment opportunities and Government support.



Q.14 Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements on disabled people (physical, intellectual, vision and hearing)?

Base: All Adults N - 1,243

Attitudes towards discrimination due to disability - by demographics

Women are more empathetic to the needs of disabled people –they are consistently less likely to believe that the disabled cohort receive fair treatment in Irish society.

Net agree		Total	Gender		Age					Region				Social Class	
			Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Dublin	RoL	Munster	Conn/ Ulster	ABC1F	C2DE
Base:		1243	611	627	115	196	378	298	256	382	322	308	231	653	590
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Disabled people receive equal opportunities in terms of education	2025	37	43	32	39	44	34	34	37	43	33	36	35	39	34
	2024	38	43	33	45	43	39	34	32	42	36	37	34	40	35
	2023	37	43	31	40	36	36	36	40	40	29	41	39	39	35
Disabled people are treated fairly in Irish society	2025	31	38	24	26	38	32	26	33	38	28	30	27	34	28
	2024	30	37	24	41	34	30	26	27	35	30	28	27	33	28
	2023	30	38	23	29	35	26	32	31	32	29	32	26	31	30
Disabled people are able to access the services they need	2025	29	36	23	37	32	28	25	31	35	26	31	24	30	28
	2024	28	35	21	42	36	27	21	22	33	26	25	25	29	26
	2023	28	36	20	41	31	24	26	26	31	25	29	26	31	25
Disabled people receive equal opportunities in terms of employment	2025	22	28	17	26	31	23	18	17	29	20	20	18	25	19
	2024	24	29	19	33	30	26	18	18	26	23	24	23	26	23
	2023	22	26	18	21	26	20	22	20	24	19	23	19	24	19
The Government is doing enough to support disabled people in Ireland	2025	21	25	17	17	24	21	21	19	24	18	21	18	20	21
	2024	23	29	17	36	30	24	16	17	27	23	18	22	26	20
	2023	21	27	16	29	25	19	21	16	22	21	23	18	23	19

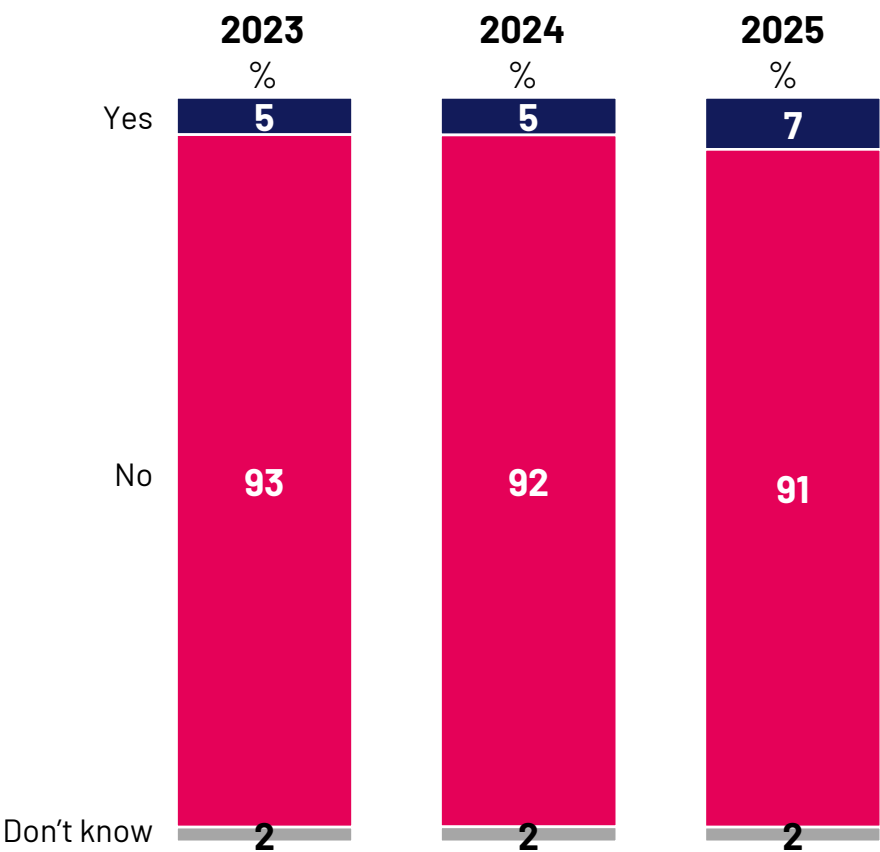
Q.14 Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements on disabled people (physical, intellectual, vision and hearing)?

Base: All Adults N - 1,243

Significantly higher than total
Significantly lower than total

Discrimination experienced due to disability in past 12 months

Among the overall population, seven percent have experienced discrimination due to a disability. However, among those with a disability, this rises to one in six.

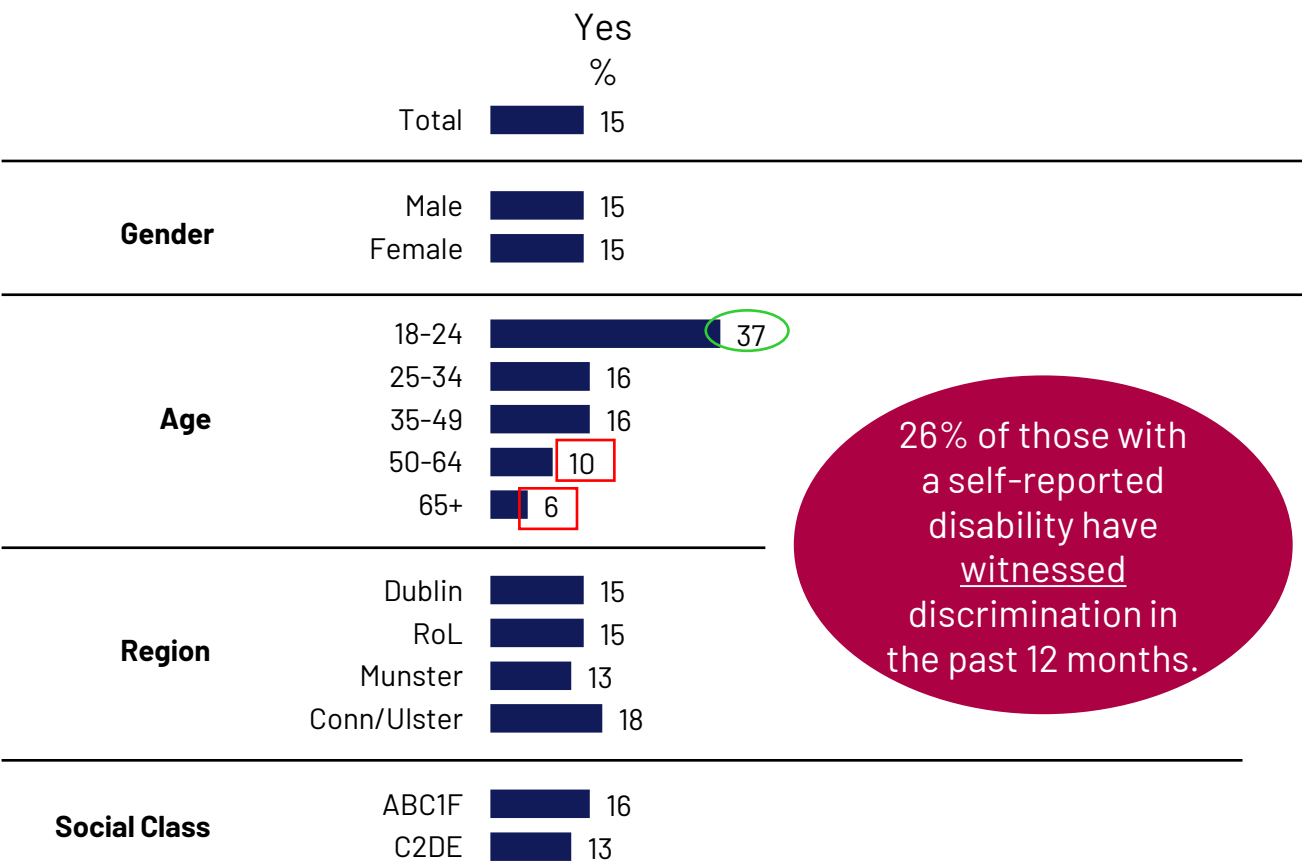
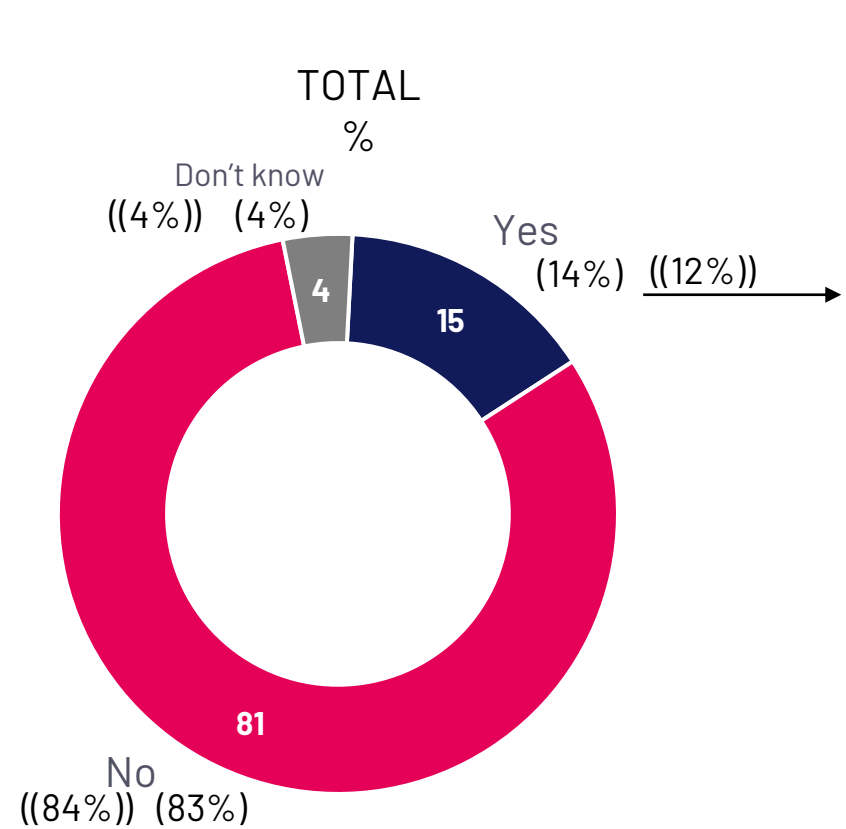


16% of those with a self-reported disability have directly experienced discrimination in the past 12 months, up six percentage points since last year.

Q.13a Over the last 12 months have you directly experienced discrimination due to a disability?
Base: All Adults N - 1,243

Discrimination witnessed due to disability in past 12 months

One in seven (15%) have witnessed discrimination due to disability in the past 12 months. This rises to 37% among those aged 18-24 years old.



26% of those with a self-reported disability have witnessed discrimination in the past 12 months.

((2024)) (2023)

Q13b Over the last 12 months have you witnessed discrimination due to a disability?

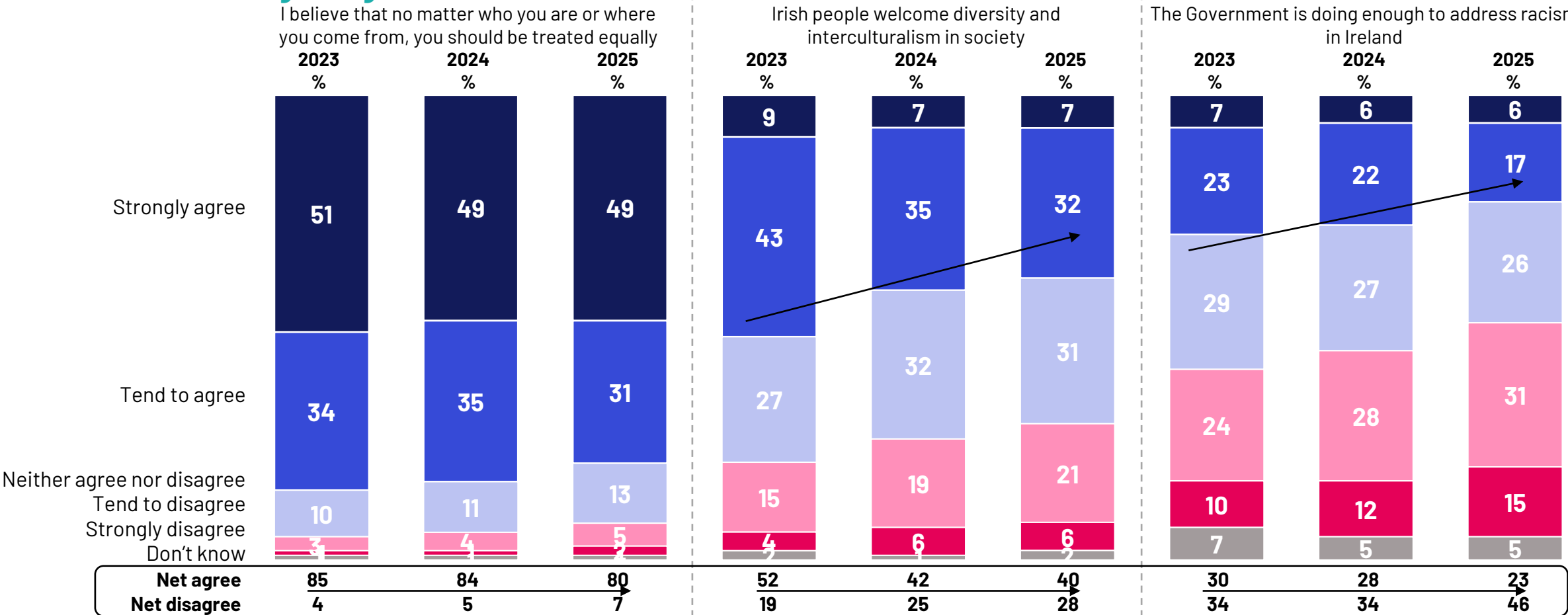
Base: : All Adults N - 1,243

Significantly higher than total
Significantly lower than total

5. RACISM & DISCRIMINATION

Attitudes towards diversity and racism

While the vast majority believe that everybody should be treated equally, support is slipping. Likewise, the public opinion is taking a more cynical view as to whether Irish people embrace diversity and multiculturalism. Less than one in four believe the Government is doing enough to address the issue.



Q19 Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements
Base: : All Adults N - 1,243

Attitudinal statements towards diversity and racism – by demographics

Males are more likely to believe that diversity and interculturalism is welcomed in Ireland, and that enough is being done by the Government to tackle racism.

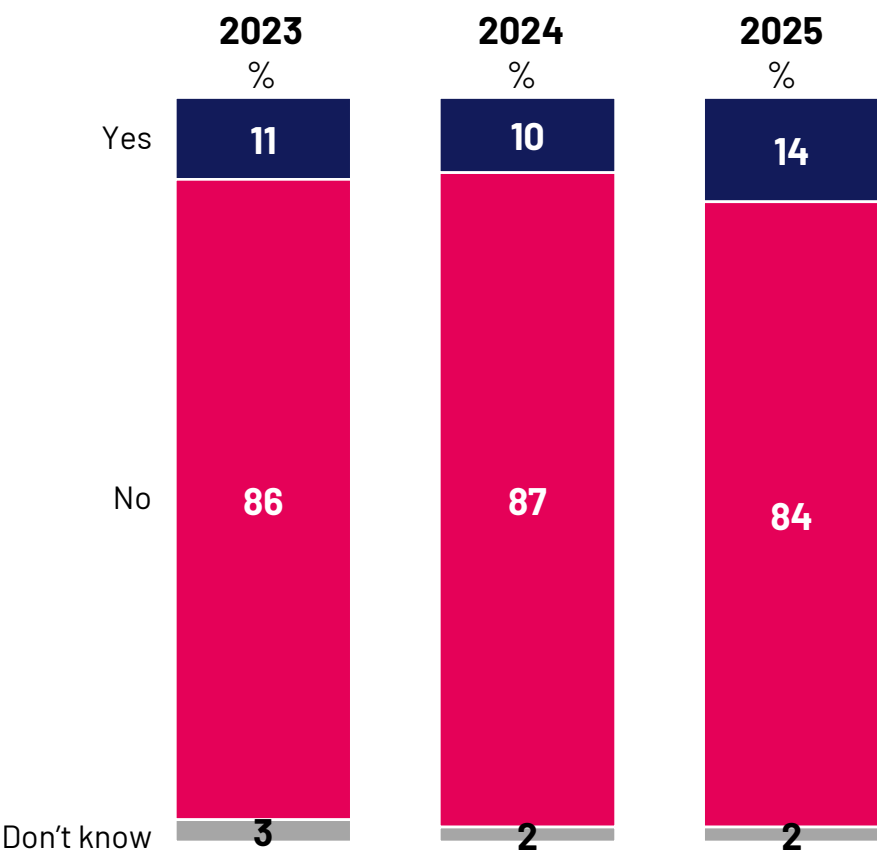
ANY Agree	Total	Gender		Age					Region				Class	
		Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Dublin	RoL	Munster	Conn/ Ulster	ABC1F	C2DE
Base:	1243	611	627	115	196	378	298	256	382	322	308	231	653	590
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
I believe that no matter who you are or where you come from, you should be treated equally	80	79	80	81	75	77	82	84	83	83	78	71	81	78
Irish people welcome diversity and interculturalism in society	40	47	33	41	42	39	39	38	46	34	43	33	42	37
The Government is doing enough to address racism in Ireland	23	30	16	26	25	20	22	25	25	20	25	21	24	22

Q19 Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements
Base: All adults 18+ n 1,243

Significantly higher than total
Significantly lower than total

Racism experienced in past 12 months

One in seven claimed to have experienced racism of the past 12 months – the highest level seen so far. However, among non-Irish, this increases to 35%, and among non-white Irish, 66% of them have endured racism.



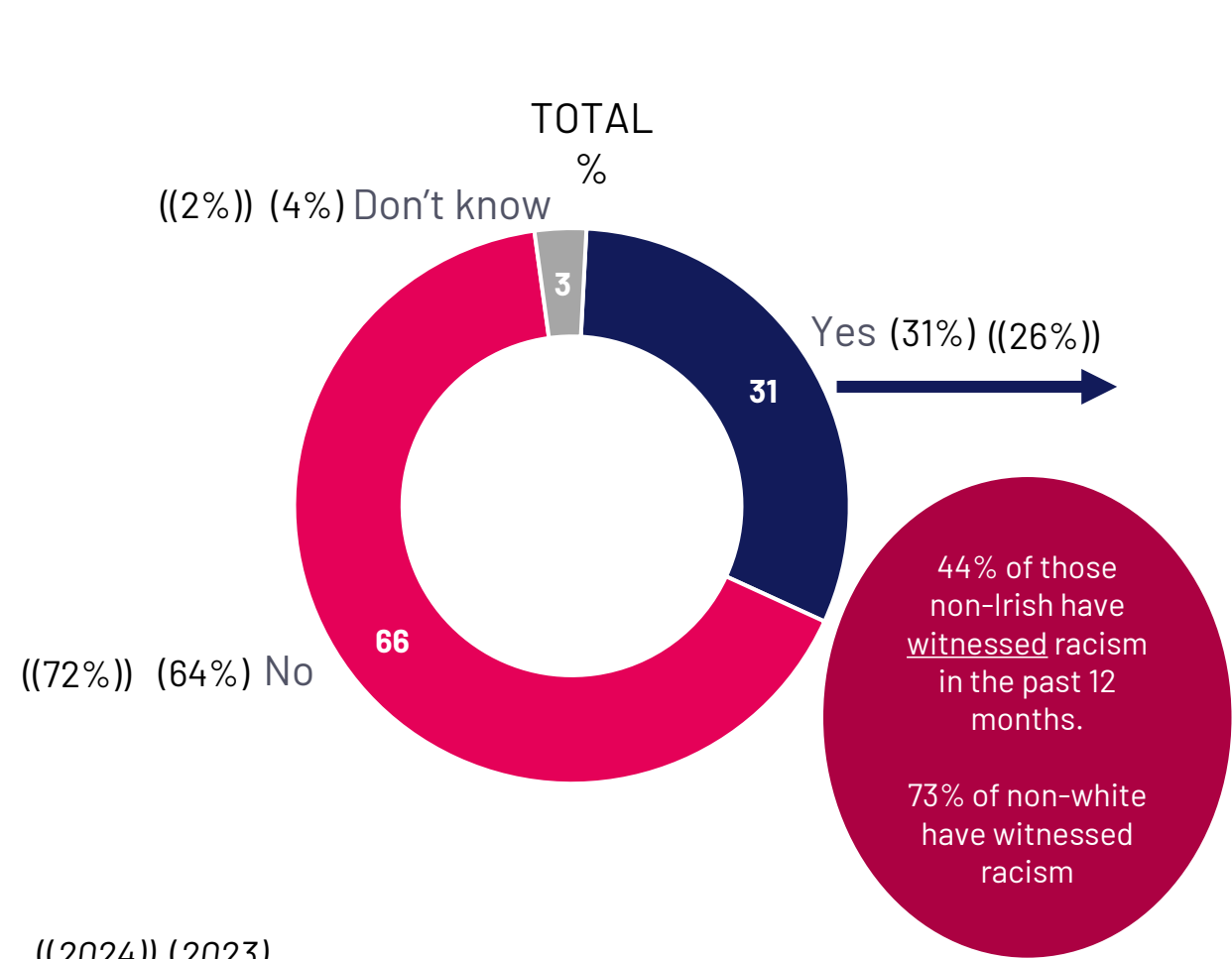
35% of those non-Irish have experienced racism in the past 12 months, compared to **28%** in 2024.

66% of non-white have suffered racism

Q18 Over the last 12 months have you directly experienced racism in Ireland?
Base: All adults 18+ n 1,243

Racism witnessed in past 12 months

Three in ten (31%) have directly witnessed racism in the past year, with younger age cohorts and Dubliners more likely to have done so. Among non-Irish respondents, this increases to 44%, up seven points. Among non-white respondents, this increases to 44%, up seven points.



((2024)) ((2023))

Q18b Over the last 12 months have you directly witnessed racism in Ireland*?

Base: All adults 18+ n 1,243

(*Note: Slight change in question wording in 2024

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		Yes %	2024 %	2023 %
Total		31	26	31
Gender	Male	33	25	33
	Female	29	27	30
Age	18-24	60	49	52
	25-34	39	33	35
	35-49	31	24	31
	50-64	26	22	29
	65+	16	17	21
Region	Dublin	37	33	35
	RoL	31	23	34
	Munster	25	25	30
	Conn/Ulster	31	22	24
Social Class	ABC1F	35	29	34
	C2DE	26	23	28

Significantly higher than total

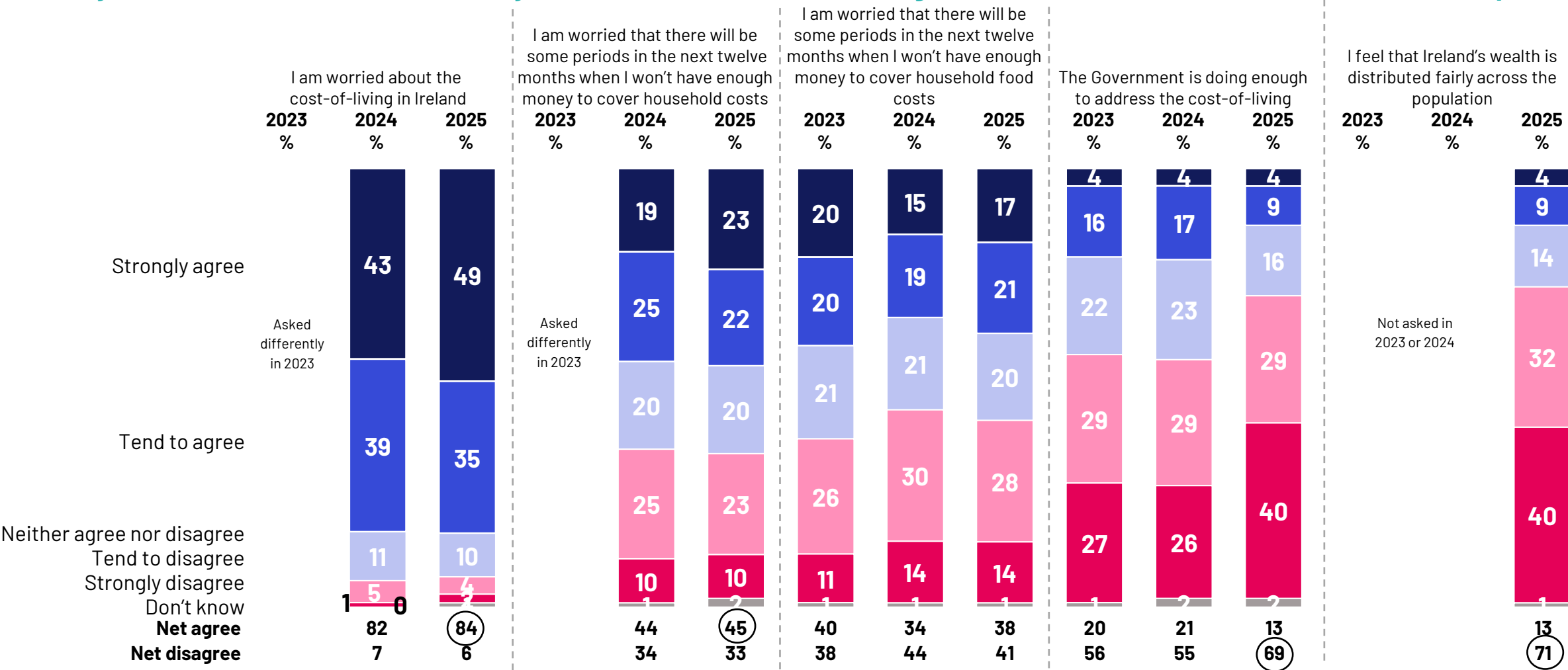
Significantly lower than total

6. ECONOMIC EQUALITY



Attitudes towards economic equality

The cost-of-living continues to weigh heavily on the minds of many – over four in five are worried, with half stating they are *very worried*. Faith in the Government to help remedy the situation has fallen sharply. Nearly half (45%) worry about their ability to cover household costs in the year ahead, and there is broad agreement that the distribution of wealth is inequitable.



Q16 Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

Base: All adults 18+ n = 1,243

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Attitudinal statements towards economic equality – by demographics

Younger and middle-aged respondents are more worried in terms of being able to pay bills. The older age cohort (65+) seem more insulated from cost-of-living concerns. Females are more critical of perceived Government (in)action.

ANY Agree	Total	Gender		Age					Region				Class	
		Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Dublin	RoL	Munster	Conn/ Ulster	ABC1F	C2DE
Base:	1243	611	627	115	196	378	298	256	382	322	308	231	653	590
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
I am worried about the cost of living in Ireland	84	81	87	85	84	87	82	82	79	87	84	87	84	84
I am worried that there will be some periods in the next twelve months when I won't have enough money to cover household costs	45	40	49	59	50	53	44	23	40	50	44	47	44	46
I am worried that there will be some periods in the next twelve months when I won't have enough money to cover household food costs	38	34	41	50	44	45	37	17	35	40	38	37	36	40
The Government is doing enough to address the cost of living	13	17	9	18	20	8	11	12	17	13	13	7	14	12
I feel that Ireland's wealth is distributed fairly across the population	13	16	10	23	18	12	8	9	15	11	14	10	14	11

Q16 Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

Base: All adults 18+ n = 1,243

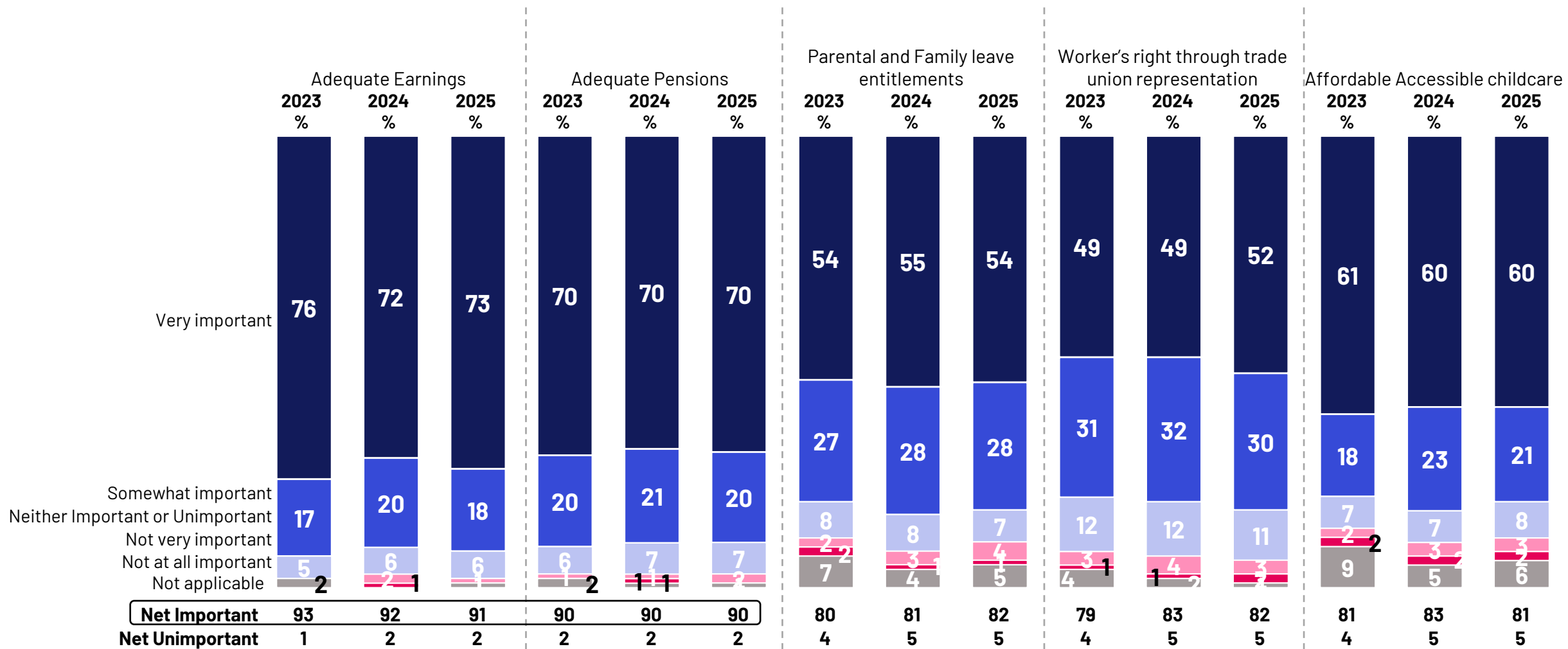
 Significantly higher than total
 Significantly lower than total

7. WORK & FAMILY LIFE



Importance of aspects of work and family life

There is broad agreement across all metrics relating to the importance of work and family life. In particular, the right to receive adequate earnings and pensions are prominent.



Q15 How important are the following aspects of work and family life, in your opinion
Base: All adults 18+ n = 1,243

Importance of aspects of work and family life – by demographics

The oldest cohort consistently attach more importance to all elements of work and family life. Females also tend to be more in agreement. The differences between social classes are relatively narrow in most instances.

ANY Agree	Total	Gender		Age					Region				Class	
		Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Dublin	RoL	Munster	Conn/ Ulster	ABC1F	C2DE
Base:	1243	611	627	115	196	378	298	256	382	322	308	231	653	590
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Adequate earnings	91	90	93	85	85	89	96	97	90	93	93	90	92	90
Adequate pensions	90	88	92	81	79	89	95	99	87	91	91	90	91	89
Parental and family leave entitlements	82	79	85	82	77	80	82	87	81	83	83	79	83	80
Workers' rights through trade union representation	82	80	85	82	77	81	84	87	82	81	83	84	82	83
Affordable, accessible childcare	81	79	82	81	74	77	80	92	80	82	82	78	80	81

Q15 How important are the following aspects of work and family life, in your opinion?

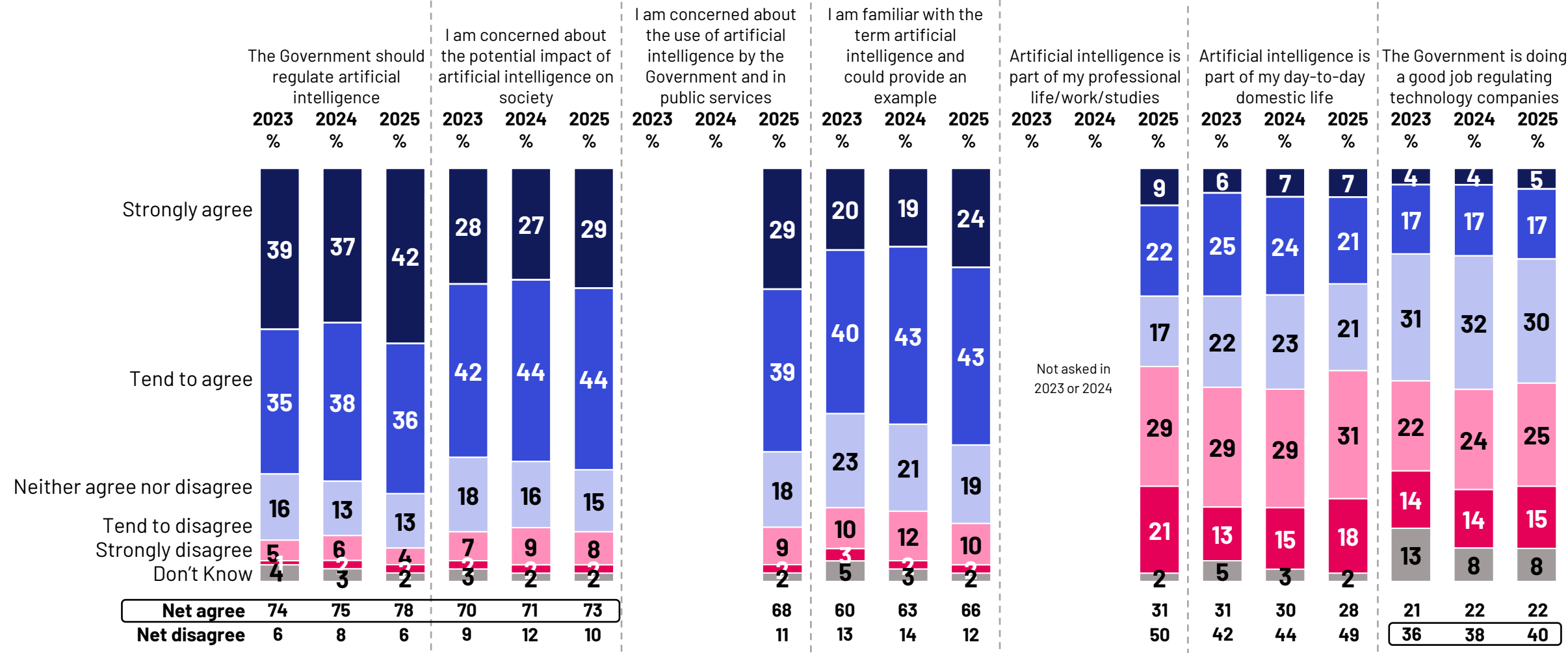
Base: All adults 18+ n – 1,243

8. DIGITAL REGULATION & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Attitudes towards digital exclusion and AI

There is a strong, and growing, belief that the Government should regulate AI (but is not currently doing so), and nearly three in four are concerned about its impact on society.



Q23. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements
Base: All adults 18+ n - 1,243

Attitudinal statements towards digital exclusion and AI - by demographics

Unsurprisingly, younger cohorts are most comfortable with AI, along with those living in Dublin and the middle classes (ABC1s). In each instance, they are more likely embrace the technology.

ANY Agree	Total	Gender		Age					Region				Class	
		Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Dublin	RoL	Munster	Conn/Uls	ABC1F	C2DE
Base:	1243	611	627	115	196	378	298	256	382	322	308	231	653	590
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
The Government should regulate artificial intelligence	78	77	79	69	73	74	84	88	76	79	81	78	80	77
I am concerned about the potential impact of artificial intelligence on society	73	69	77	75	71	73	74	73	72	76	74	69	73	73
I am concerned about the use of artificial intelligence by the Government and in public services	68	65	72	68	70	68	67	69	64	72	71	65	68	69
I am familiar with the term artificial intelligence and could provide an example	66	70	62	75	77	71	61	52	71	65	64	63	77	54
Artificial intelligence is part of my professional life/work/studies	31	36	26	52	47	35	24	10	40	29	27	27	43	17
Artificial intelligence is part of my day-to-day domestic life	28	31	26	40	42	30	23	14	35	26	24	27	34	22
The Government is doing a good job regulating technology companies	22	25	19	33	28	20	18	17	25	20	22	18	26	16

Q.23. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements

Base: All adults 18+ n - 1,243

Significantly higher than total
Significantly lower than total

9. KEY INSIGHTS



Human Rights

Nearly two in three (62%) of the public feel they have quite a strong or a very strong understanding of human rights, similar to last year. One in seven (15%) believe their understanding of human rights is “very strong”. Claimed understanding is highest among the youngest cohort (18-24 year olds) and ABC1s.

In terms of international treaties, awareness is highest for the European Convention on Human Rights, similar to 2024. Awareness of the Universal Declaration of Human rights continues to increase year-on-year.

More than nine in 10 (91%) agree that human rights are important for creating a fairer society in Ireland, and the strength of feeling on this matter has increased.

Opinion is more divided on whether everybody in Ireland enjoys the same rights, with 35% believing that not everybody enjoys the same basic human rights.

Less than half feel efforts to combat human rights abuses are effective in Ireland, with a sizeable proportion (19%) actively disagreeing.

Nearly three in four (72%) would not know who to contact if their human rights were violated, again similar to previous results.

Of those who claim to know who to contact, two in five (39%) would contact the Gardaí, while seven percent nominated the IHREC by name. When other variations of the Equality Commission are added to the mix, this figure increases to c15%.



Equality, Discrimination and Racism

There is lower understanding of equality and anti-discrimination measures, with less than half (46%) claiming to have a strong understanding of these measures (down four points since 2024). Awareness of the Employment Equality Acts 1998-2015 remains high (72%), while half (51%) are familiar with the Equal Status Acts 2000-2018 (up six points vs 2024)..

Over three in five (62%) feel they have equal opportunities in life (relatively similar to last year), but over one in five (21%) disagree.

Just two in five feel that efforts made to fight discrimination in Ireland are effective. Unsurprisingly, those who have recently experienced /witnessed racism or discrimination have less faith.

Opinions are polarised as to whether disabled people receive equal opportunities in education. On all other metrics, the public feel that disabled people are at a disadvantage (especially in terms of employment opportunities and Government support).

16% of disabled people (based on their own self assessment) have *experienced* discrimination due to their disability in the past 12 months, with over one in four of this cohort (26%) having *witnessed* discrimination.



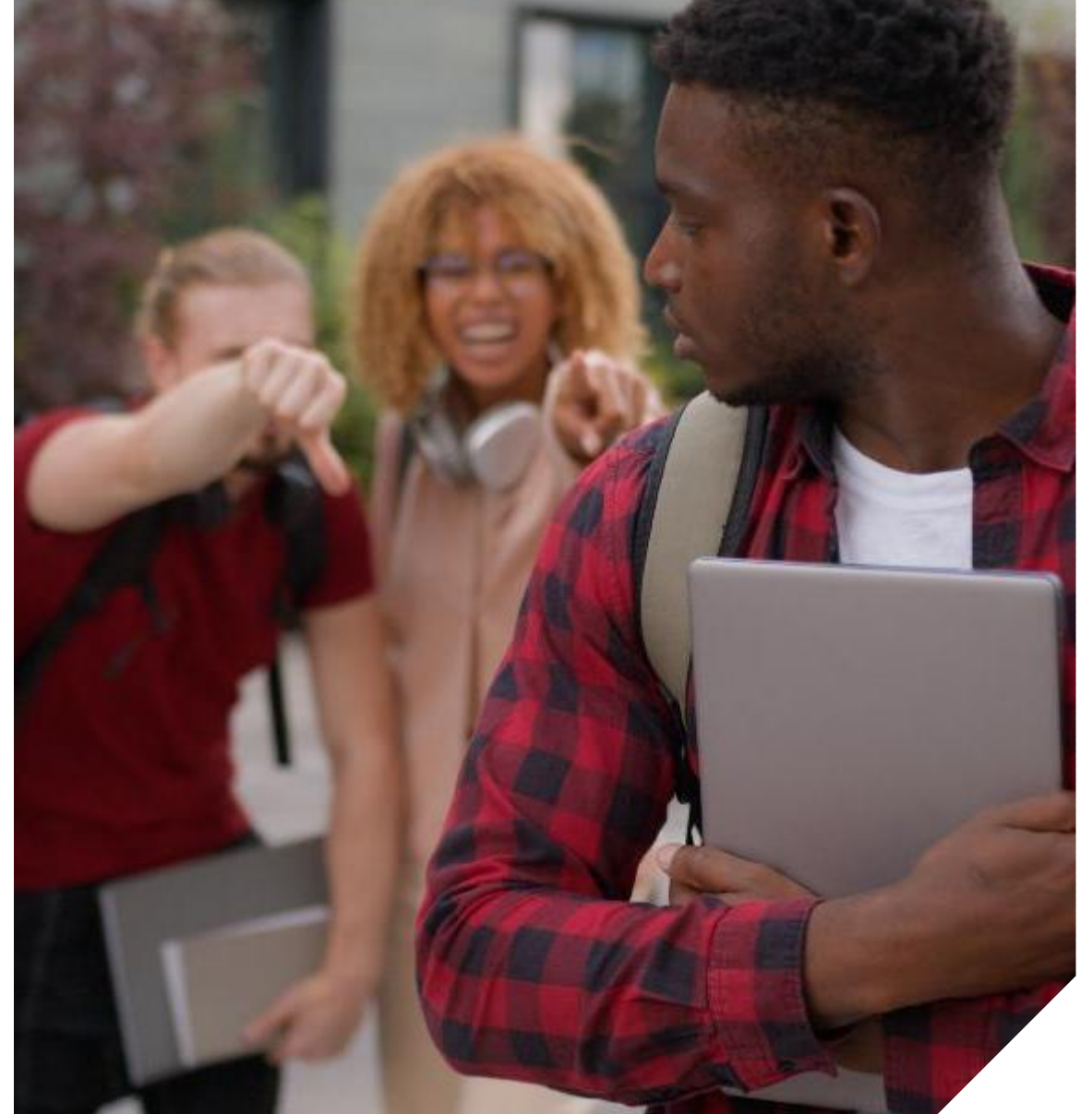
Equality and Discrimination and racism

In terms of attitudes towards diversity and racism, while the vast majority believe that everybody should be treated equally (80% agreeing). However, this is down from 84% 12 months ago. Opinion is more nuanced as to whether Irish people embrace this concept – just 40% believe that Irish people welcome diversity and interculturalism in society, continuing a downward trajectory over the past two years.

In addition, less than one in four (23%) believe the Government is doing enough to address the issue; another metric that has trended downwards.

One in seven (14%) claim to have directly experienced racism of the past 12 months. However, among those defining themselves as non-Irish, this increases to 35%, and among those non-white Irish, this jumps to 66%

73% of the latter cohort have witnessed racism.

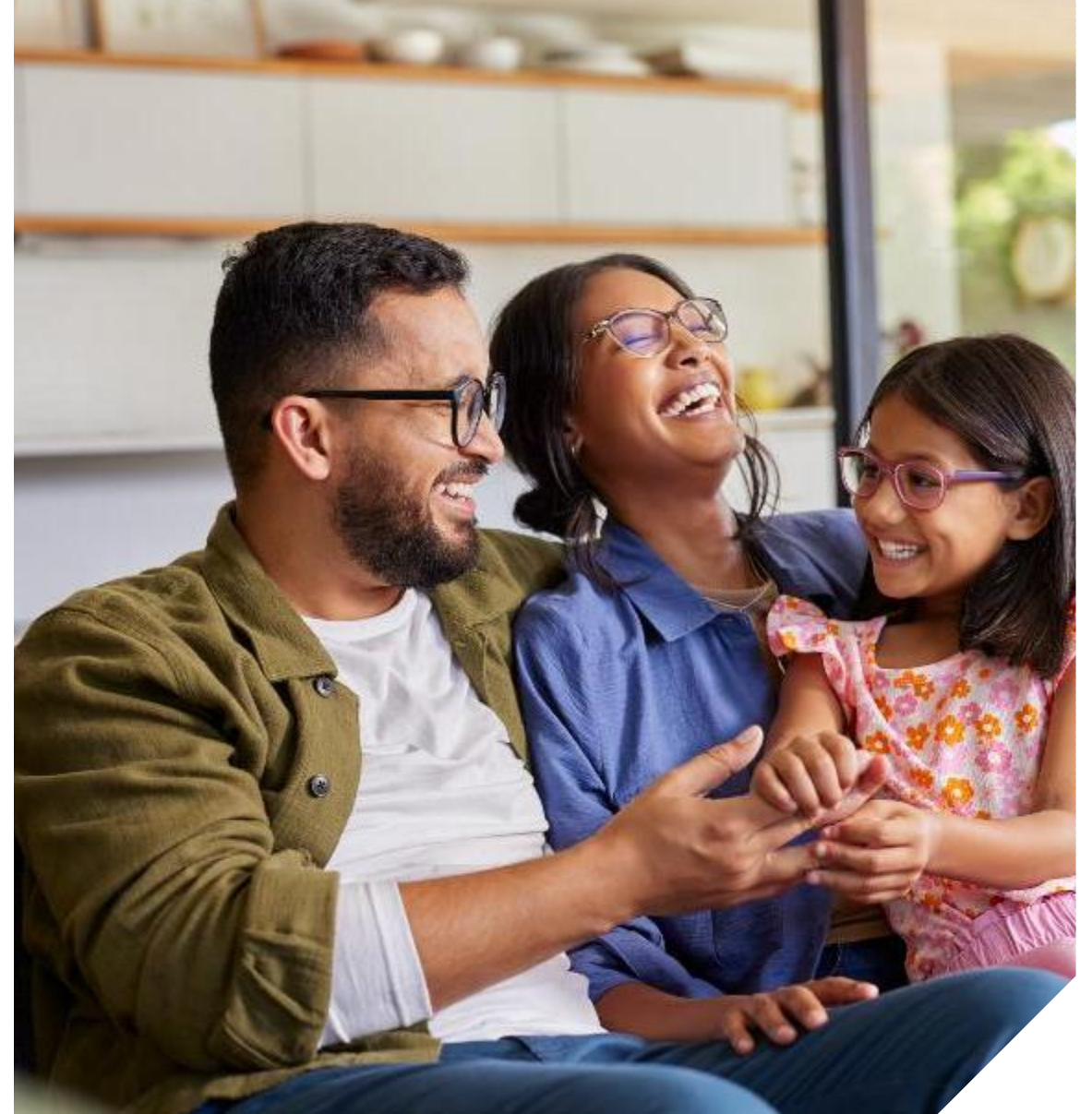


Work and Family Life

The importance of having access to both adequate earnings and pensions is almost universal – at least 90% agree. This mirrors that attitudes seen both in 2024 and 2023.

All metrics are considered important for work and family life; 81% recognize the significance of affordable accessible childcare, with a similar proportion (82%) acknowledging parental and family leave entitlements. Again, there attitudes are consistent year-on-year

Over four in five (82%) also recognise the value of worker's rights through trade union representation.



Digital regulation and Artificial Intelligence

Just over one in five (22%) think that the Government is doing a good job regulating technology companies. This opinion has remained steady over the past two years. Two in five actively disagree with this suggestion.

Likewise, there is a strong desire (78%) for Artificial Intelligence to be regulated. This has increased three points since 2024 and is reflective of the growing influence of AI.

Mirroring this, over seven in ten (73%) are concerned about the potential impact of AI on society.

While many claim to be familiar with AI and could provide an example (66%, up three points), this does not necessarily imply that AI is part of people's day-to-day lives. Just 28% feel that it is (down two points).

Unsurprisingly, younger cohorts are more comfortable with AI. Those living in Dublin and middle classes (ABC1s) are more likely embrace the technology.



THANK YOU



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