

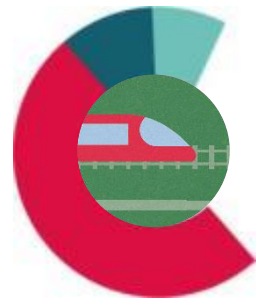


Newstalk 8th Amendment Poll



REDC

Research Methodology



- / RED C interviewed a random representative sample of 1,005 adults aged 18+ by phone between the 11th and 13th of January.
- / A random digit dial (RDD) method of mobile and landline numbers was utilized in order to ensure a random selection of households to be included – this ensures all adults were eligible for selection including mobile only households and ex-directory households.
- / Quotas were set and data weighted to know profiles on age, gender, class and region to ensure that the sample is representative of the total Irish adult population. Interviews were conducted across the country and the results weighted to the profile of all adults.
- / Throughout the deck the following notations apply:



Higher



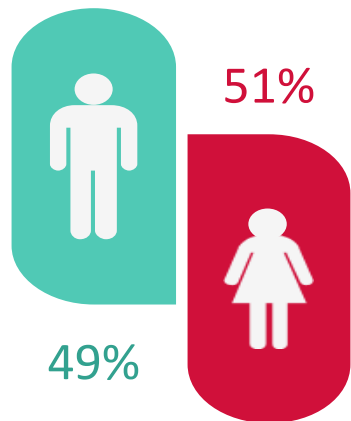
Lower

REDC

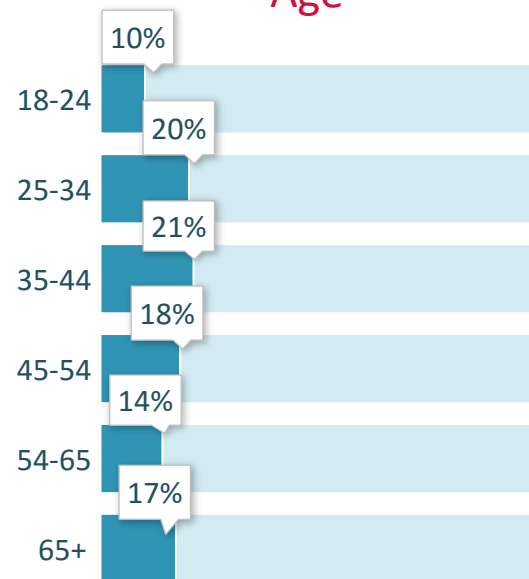
Nationally Representative Sample Profile

(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

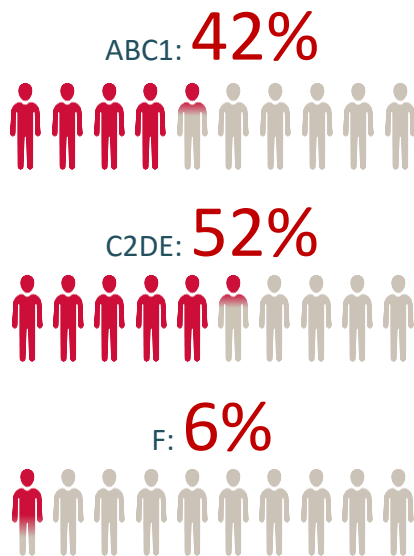
Gender



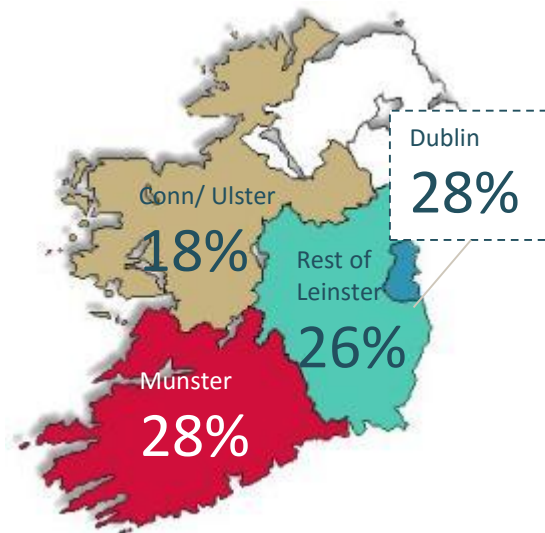
Age



Social Class



Region



Targets were set and data weighted to ensure a nationally representative sample was surveyed.



Key Findings & Summary

- / Results suggest that the **Irish population feel change is needed** in relation to the 8th Amendment;
- / The majority of adults in Ireland want to see abortion legalised in certain circumstances...
 - » **4 in 5** believe abortion should be **allowed** in the case of **rape/incest**;
 - » **3 in 4** believe abortion should be **allowed** for **fatal foetal abnormality**;
 - » **3 in 5** believe abortion should be **allowed** for both significant **fatal foetal abnormality/non-fatal foetal abnormality** and **suicidal feelings** on the part of the mother.
- / However when asked should the **8th Amendment** be removed or not from the Constitution, **48%** state that this should be **removed** with **41%** stating that this **should not be removed**.
- / This suggests that at a national level the people want to see **abortion laws within Ireland revised**, but still want to see **careful governance retained**.
- / **Women over 55 years** are **more conservative** in their opinions relating to abortion; under-indexing on feeling abortion to be an appropriate course of action in the circumstances tested.

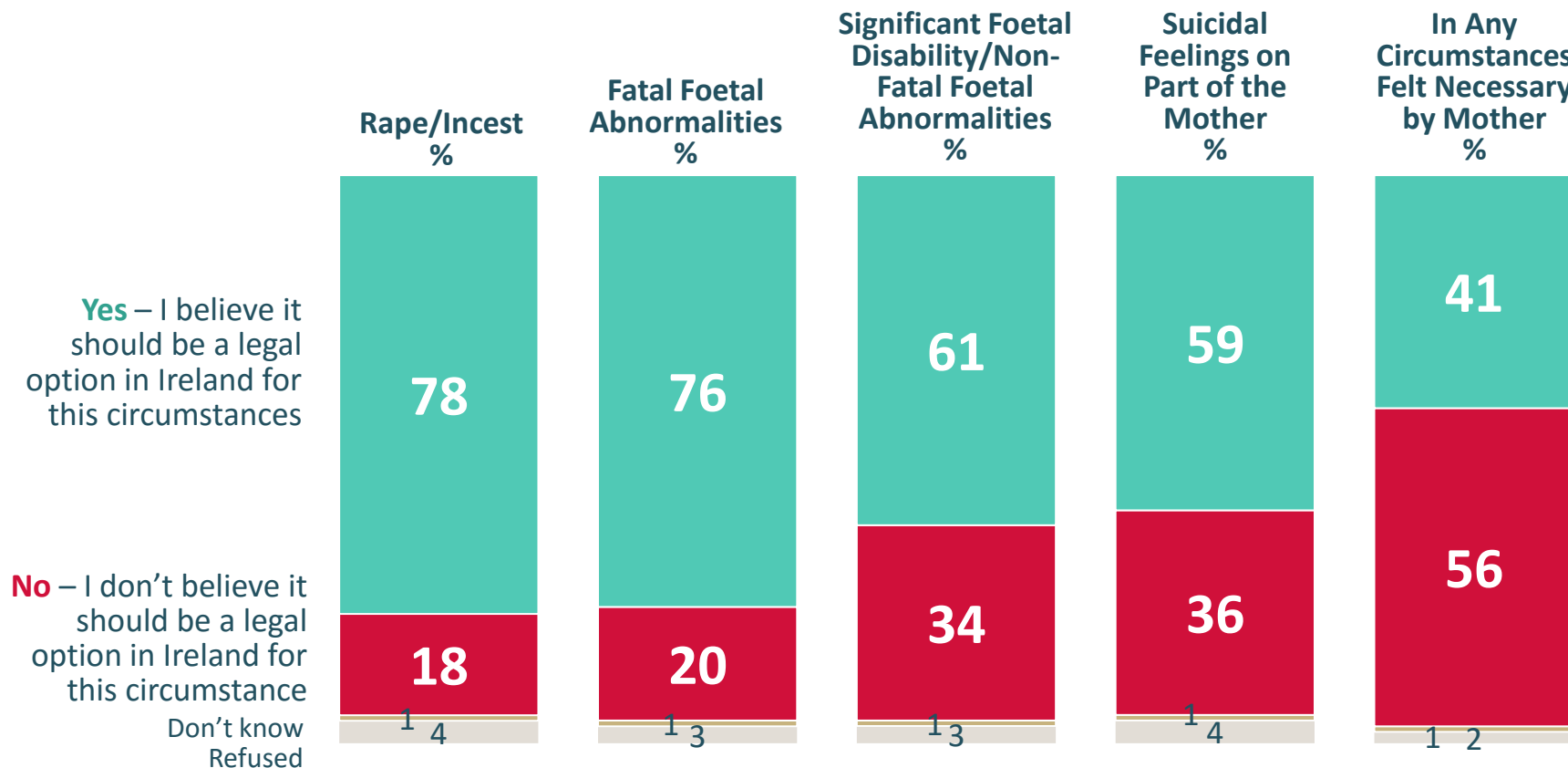


Abortion as a Course of Action in Ireland

Abortion: A Course of Action In Ireland?

(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

Q. Some people feel that abortion is an appropriate course of action in certain circumstances and some people feel that abortion is never an option. For each of the following circumstances that I will read out to you, can you tell me if you believe that abortion should be a legal option in Ireland for this circumstance or not be a legal option in Ireland in this circumstance?



The majority clearly indicate the desire to see abortion in certain circumstances to be legal in Ireland, but do not want to see abortion on demand. Rape or Incest and cases of Fatal Foetal Abnormality appears to garner the strongest support for change, with less support recorded for non fatal foetal abnormalities and suicide.



Support for Legalisation of Abortion x Circumstance

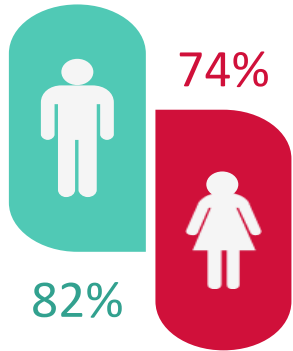
(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

Q. Some people feel that abortion is an appropriate course of action in certain circumstances and some people feel that abortion is never an option. For each of the following circumstances that I will read out to you, can you tell me if you believe that abortion should be a legal option in Ireland for this circumstance or not be a legal option in Ireland in this circumstance?

78%

Believe abortion should be a legal option for instances of rape/incest

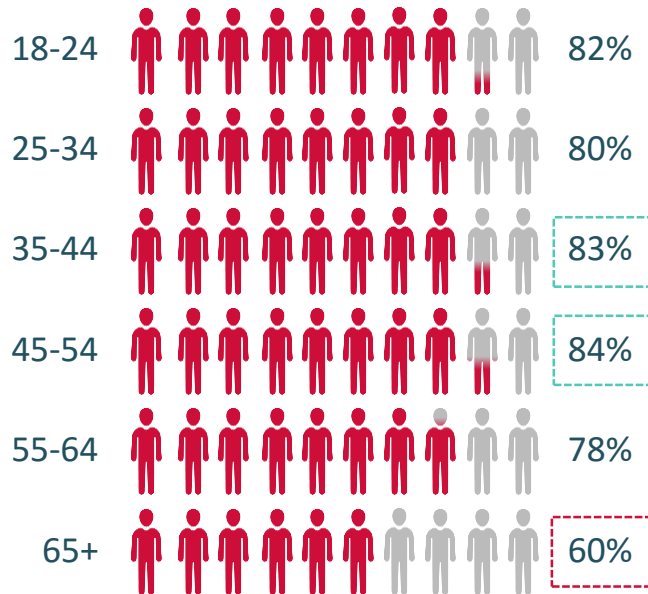
Gender



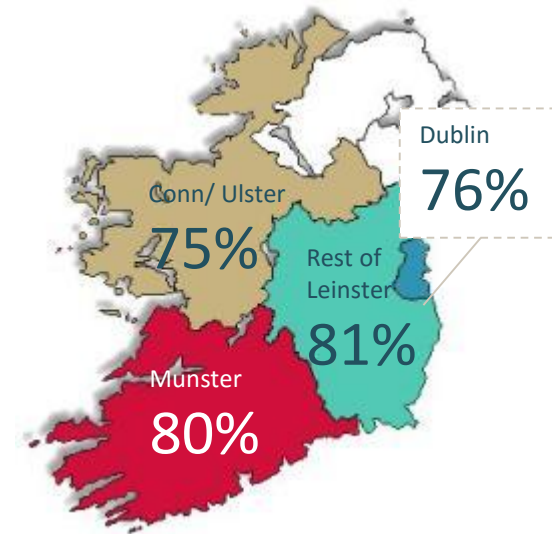
Social Grade



Age



Region



Support for Legalisation of Abortion x Circumstance

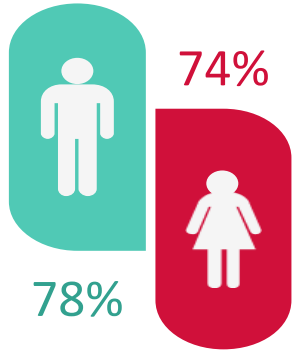
(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

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76%

Believe abortion should be a legal option for instances of fatal foetal abnormality

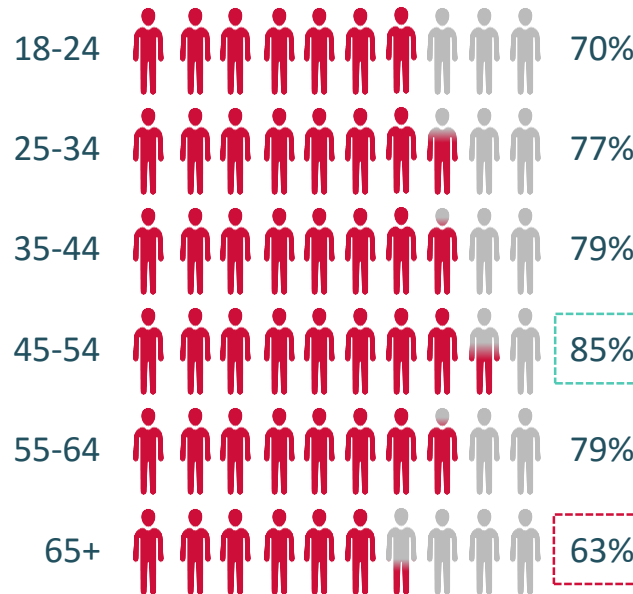
Gender



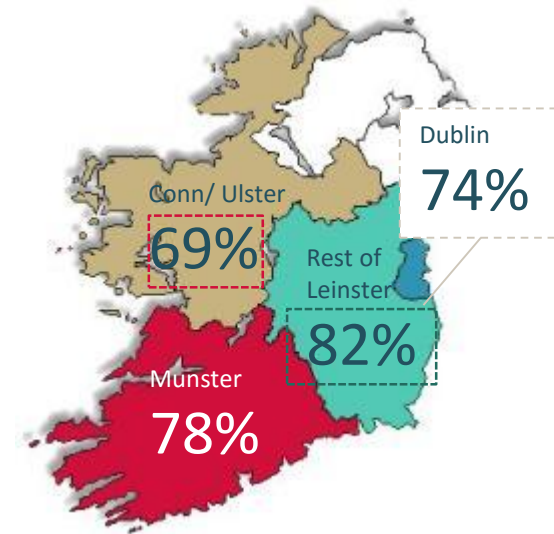
Social Grade



Age



Region



Support for Legalisation of Abortion x Circumstance

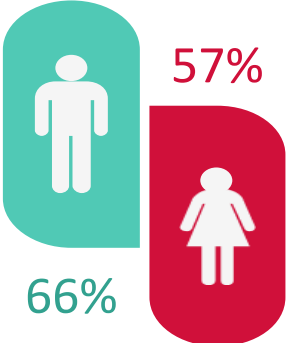
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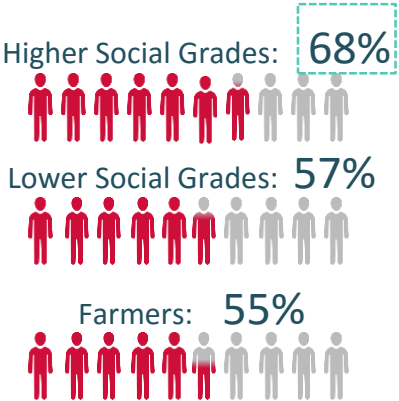
61%

Believe abortion should be a legal option for instances of significant foetal disability or non-fatal foetal abnormality

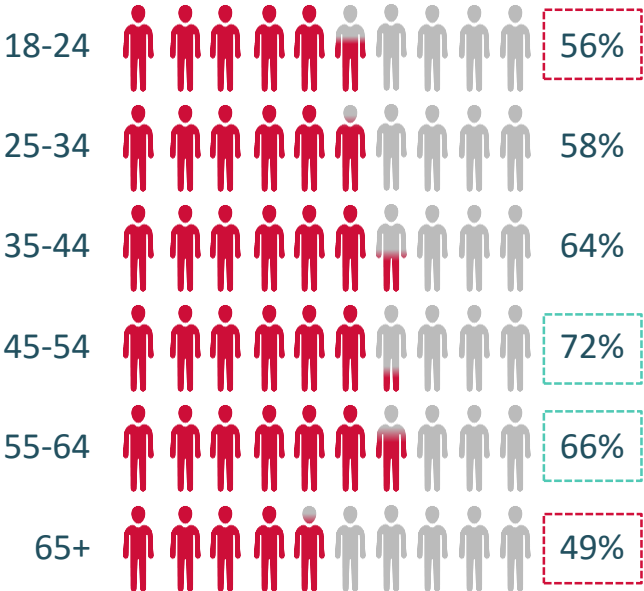
Gender



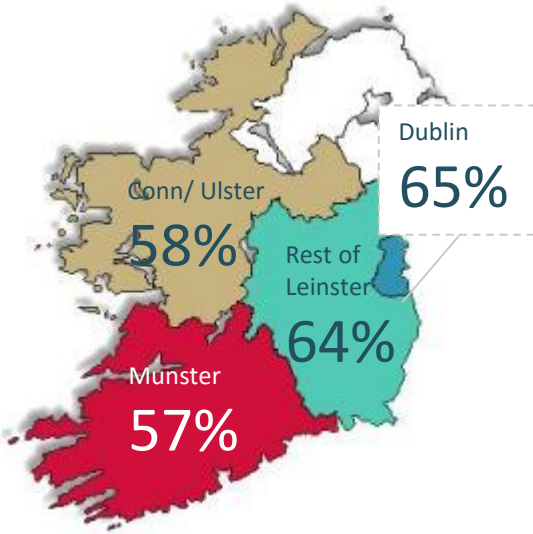
Social Grade



Age



Region



Support for Legalisation of Abortion x Circumstance

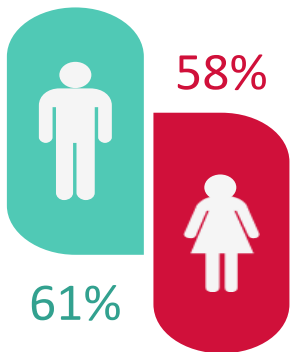
(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

Q. Some people feel that abortion is an appropriate course of action in certain circumstances and some people feel that abortion is never an option. For each of the following circumstances that I will read out to you, can you tell me if you believe that abortion should be a legal option in Ireland for this circumstance or not be a legal option in Ireland in this circumstance?

59%

Believe abortion should be a legal option for instances of suicidal feelings on the part of the mother

Gender



Social Grade

Higher Social Grades: 62%



Lower Social Grades: 58%



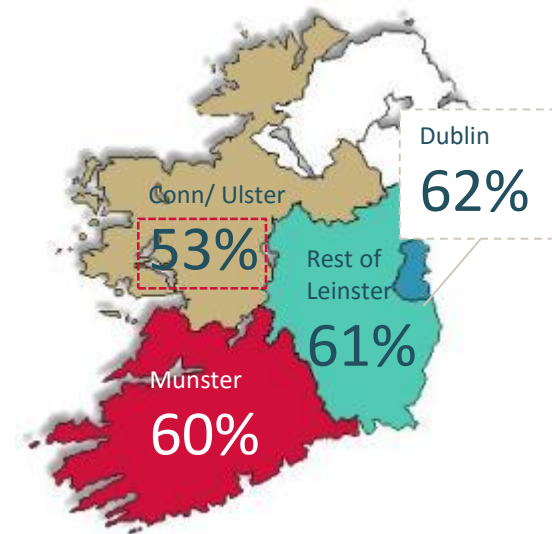
Farmers: 56%



Age



Region



Support for Legalisation of Abortion x Circumstance

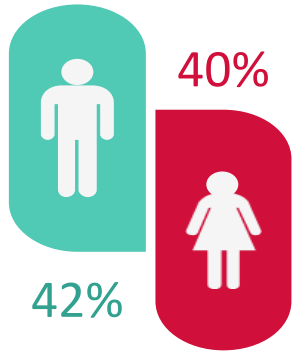
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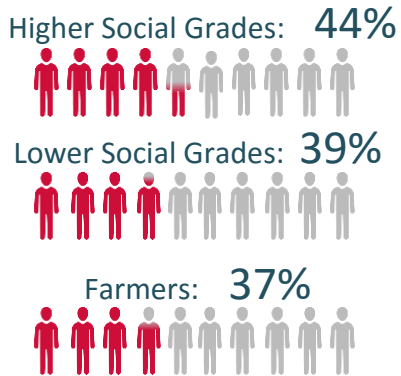
41%

Believe abortion should be a legal option in any circumstance felt necessary by the mother

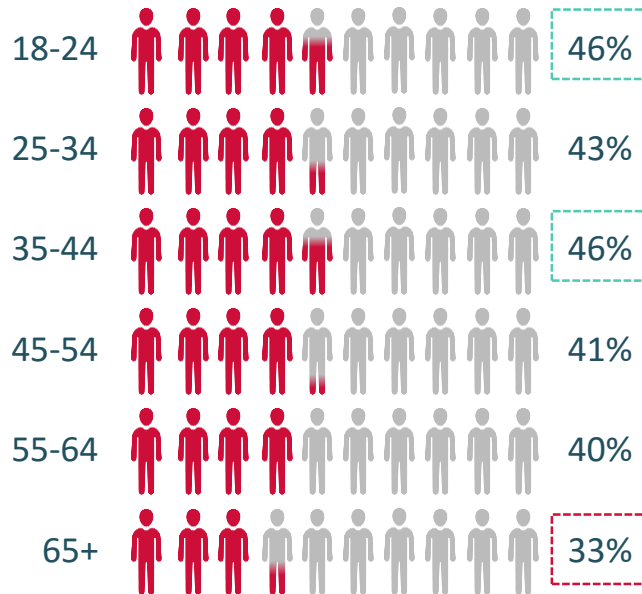
Gender



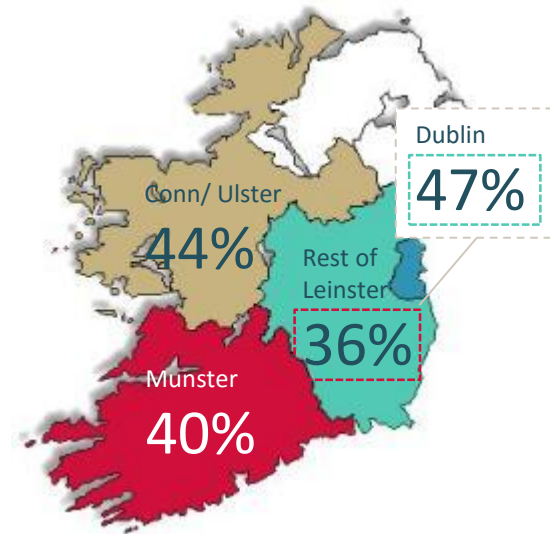
Social Grade



Age



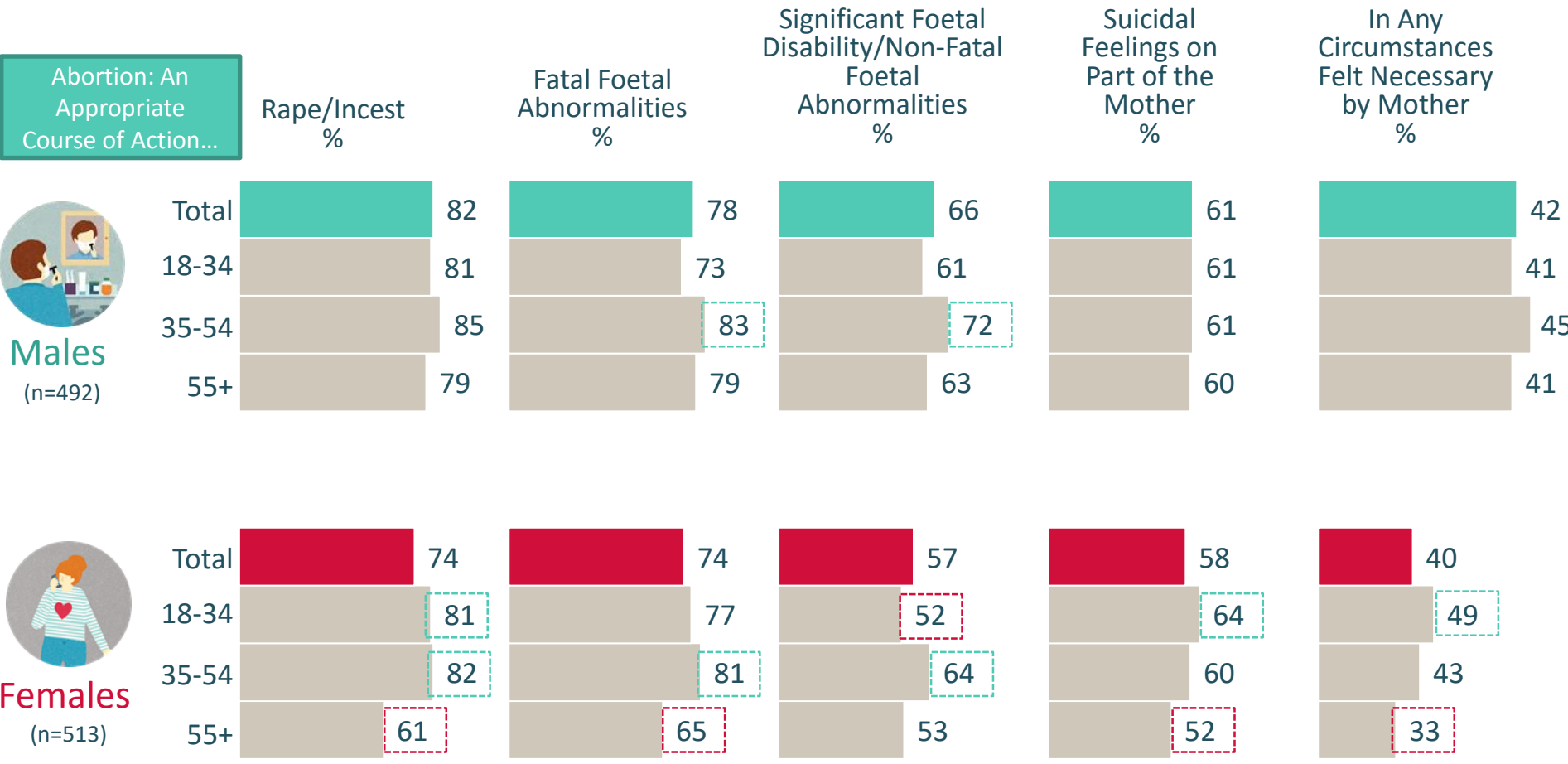
Region



Age: A Dividing Influence?

(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

Q. Some people feel that abortion is an appropriate course of action in certain circumstances and some people feel that abortion is never an option. For each of the following circumstances that I will read out to you, can you tell me if you believe that abortion should be a legal option in Ireland for this circumstance or not be a legal option in Ireland in this circumstance?



Male opinion across demographics lies relatively in line, with the opposite being true for women. Females 55+ under-index on believing abortion to be an appropriate course of action, with those under 54 typically more positively disposed. 18-34 females are less likely to agree with abortion in the case of significant foetal disability/non-fatal foetal abnormality.





Repealing the 8th Amendment

Should the 8th Amendment of the Irish Constitution be **Removed?**

(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

Q. *The 8th Amendment is the act in the Irish Constitution which states that 'the State acknowledges the right to life of the unborn and, with due regard to the equal right to life of the mother'. Do you believe that this Amendment should be or should not be removed the Constitution?*



48%

of the Irish adult population believe the 8th Amendment should be removed

41%

of the Irish adult population believe the 8th Amendment should not be removed

11% D/K

54% of those expressing a preference believe the 8th Amendment should be removed

Just under 1 in 2 of the population believe that the 8th Amendment should be removed from the Constitution, but a significant proportion do not want to see it removed.

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(Q 1)

Who Believes the 8th Amendment **Should** be Removed?

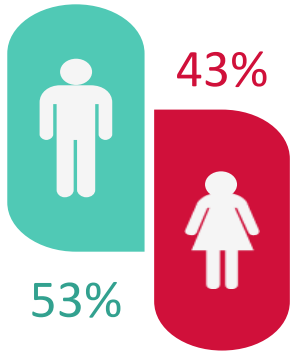
(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

Q. The 8th Amendment is the act in the Irish Constitution which states that 'the State acknowledges the right to life of the unborn and, with due regard to the equal right to life of the mother'. Do you believe that this Amendment should be or should not be removed the Constitution?

48%

believe the 8th amendment should be removed

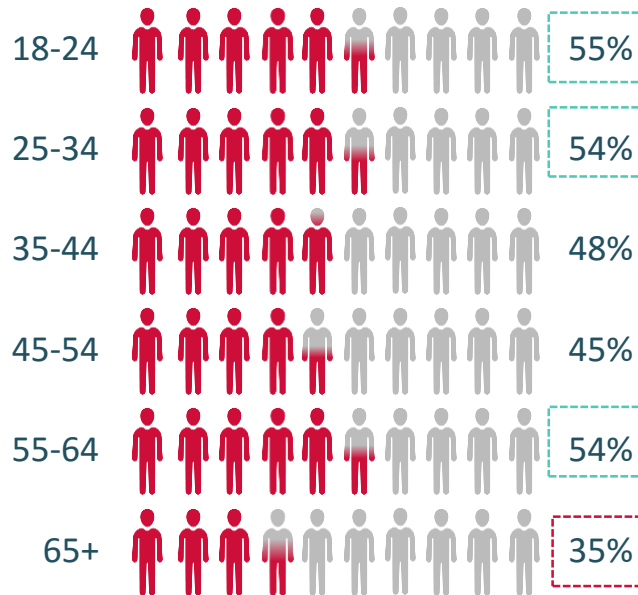
Gender



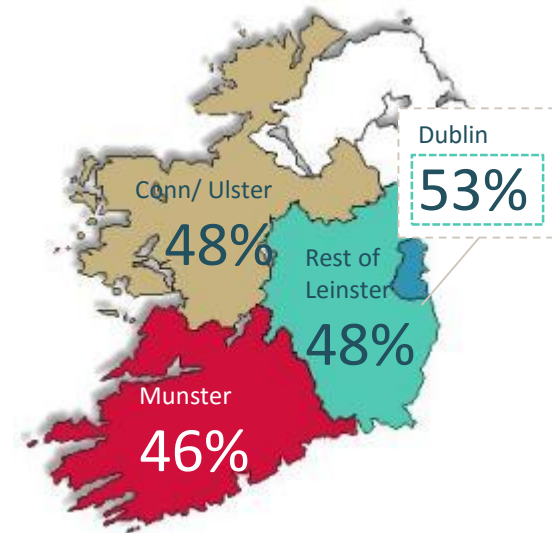
Social Grade



Age



Region



(Q 1)

Who Believes the 8th Should Not be Removed?

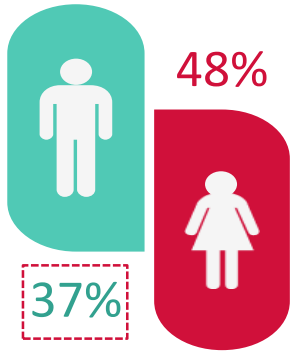
(Base: All Adults 18+; n=1,005)

Q. The 8th Amendment is the act in the Irish Constitution which states that 'the State acknowledges the right to life of the unborn and, with due regard to the equal right to life of the mother'. Do you believe that this Amendment should be or should not be removed from the Constitution?

43%

 Believe the 8th amendment should not be removed

Gender



Social Grade

Higher Social Grades: 38%



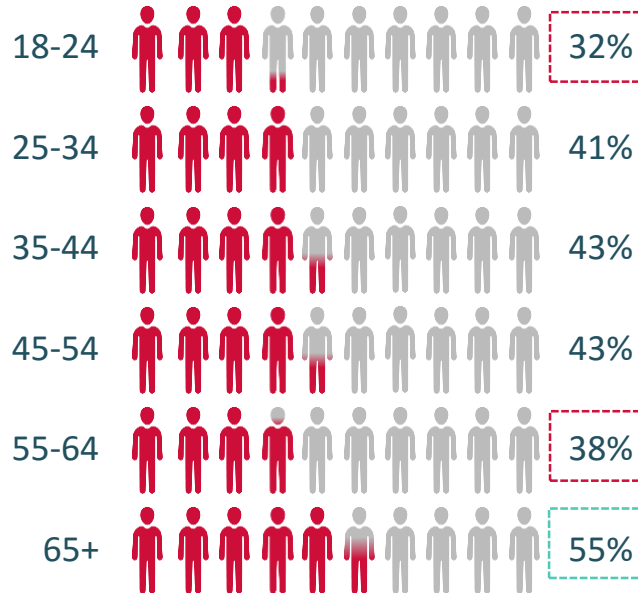
Lower Social Grades: 45%



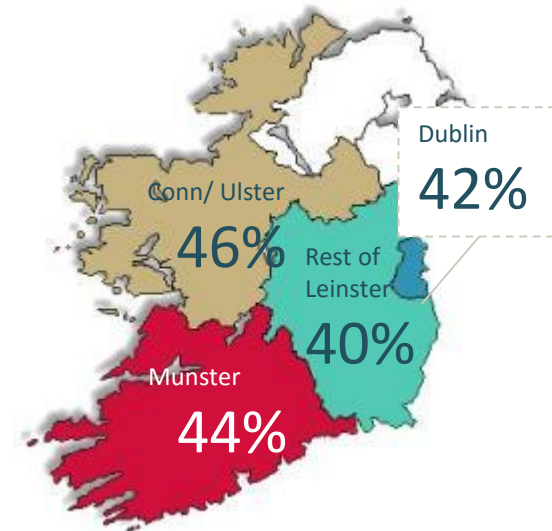
Farmers: 56%



Age



Region

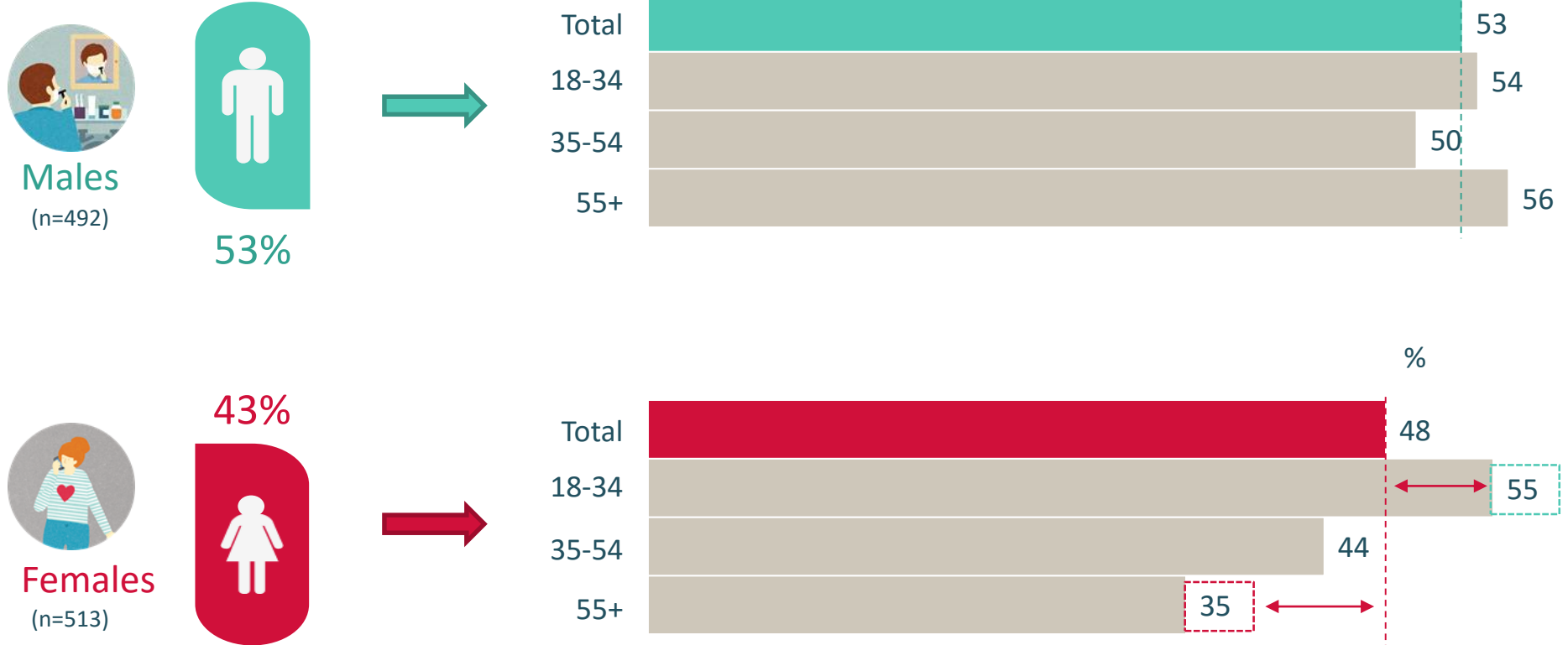


(Q 1)

Age: A Dividing Influence?

Q. The 8th Amendment is the act in the Irish Constitution which states that 'the State acknowledges the right to life of the unborn and, with due regard to the equal right to life of the mother'. Do you believe that this Amendment should be or should not be removed the Constitution?

...believe the 8th amendment should be removed



Age is a divider in terms of response amongst women, with those under 34 significantly more likely to believe the 8th should be removed. Females over 55 under-index on this belief. Age is a much less impactful segregator for males.

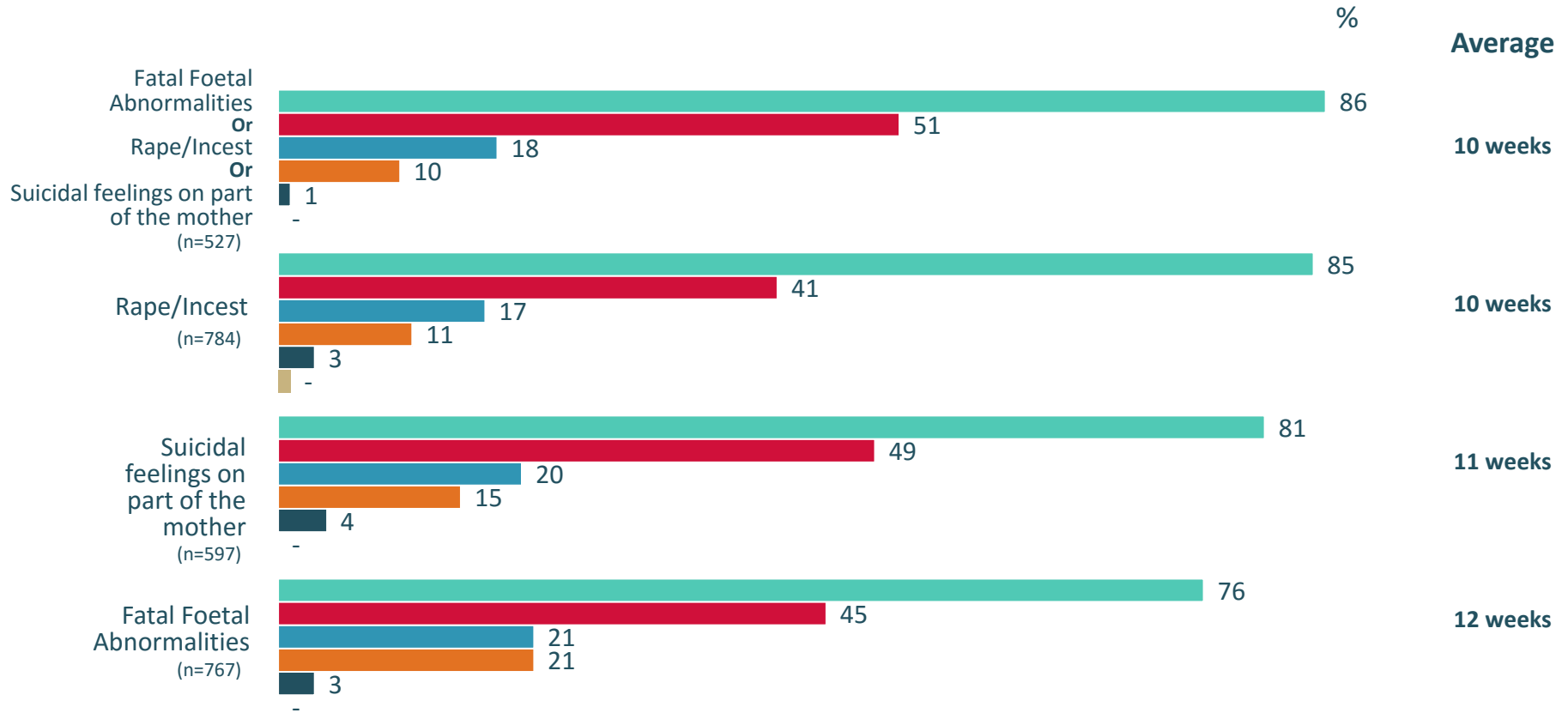
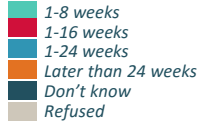


Abortion: Permitted Termination Periods

Point In Pregnancy Up To Which Termination Should Be Allowed

(Base: All Who Believe Abortion Should Be An Option in Said Circumstance)

Q. I am now going to read out a list of circumstances for which some people would opt for an abortion. If abortion in Ireland was legal for this circumstance, at what point in the term of the pregnancy do you think this should be allowed, if at all?



Fatal foetal abnormality termination periods should, on average, be allowed at a later point in the pregnancy than the other circumstances tested at 12 weeks according to the population. The Newstalk target are more liberal than the nation on this, deeming 14 weeks to be average allowed cut-off point.



**RESEARCH
EVALUATION
DIRECTION
CLARITY**

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