

# Opinion Poll Report January 2025



#### C

# Methodology and Weighting

- RED C interviewed a random sample of **1,003** adults aged 18+ online between 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025
- An online approach was used, among our bespoke online panel RED C Live.
- Interviews are conducted across the country and the results weighted to the profile of all adults.
- Panellists were chosen at random to complete the poll, with quotas set and weights allocated on age, gender, class, region, education level & working status to ensure a nationally representative sample.
- A further past vote quota is included that looks at how people on our panel voted at the last general election and controls this to ensure it is close to the actual results.
- An additional past vote weight based on how people voted in both the last local and general elections is also applied
- Vote intention data is also weighted to take account of claimed likely turnout on the day of an election.
- In all respects the poll was completed to opinion polling guidelines set out by both ESOMAR & AIMRO

### REDCLIVE

- Over 40,000 panellists in place – the most robust online panel in Ireland
- Both online and offline ongoing recruitment, with between 200-500 new people recruited per month on average
- Deliberate efforts are made to recruit older consumers who are generally more difficult to find.
- RED C Live has proven to hold higher numbers of difficult to reach sample profiles including those aged 65+ vs. leading panel providers. As such we can deliver fully nat. rep samples across all age

#### **RED C Live**

Reviews 406 • Excellent







### The highest online research quality standards in the industry



#### **Pre-Screening**

All respondents are pre-screened and invited to take part in the survey based on the information held on them in the panel.



#### **Bot Capture**

Honeypot checks with hidden questions in the code that respondents can't see and if answered they are removed from the data.



#### **Fair Reward**

We pay respondents fair rewards of €1 per 5 mins in cash for survey completion to ensure quality attention is given.



#### **Logic Traps**

We have inbuilt logic questions and failures at these questions are rejected.



#### **Time Delays**

All surveys have in-built time delays from the appearance of questions to the presentation or response options.

#### **RED C Polling Accuracy**

#### Closest pollster again at General Election 2024

RED C are delighted with the accuracy of our polling at the recent Irish General Election in Nov 2024. The final RED C Business Post poll had the joint best average error across all parties for our final poll, and the most accurate by far across the three main parties, correctly predicting that Fianna Fáil would have the largest vote share and that they would benefit most from transfers, and was more accurate than the exit poll.

The accuracy of our final poll conducted online vs. polls conducted face to face with larger sample sizes, confirms the ability of online polling to accurately predict elections.

The accuracy of our polls once again underlines the high quality of our research, in particular the quality controls for our online panel and the statistical controls and weighting matrices used to ensure a representative sample.

The RED C published polls in the Business Post, clearly gave the insight to the wider population very accurately from the start of the campaign. Our final poll (figure 1 below) had an average error of just 0.8% the lowest error seen across all polls, and ahead of the exit poll.

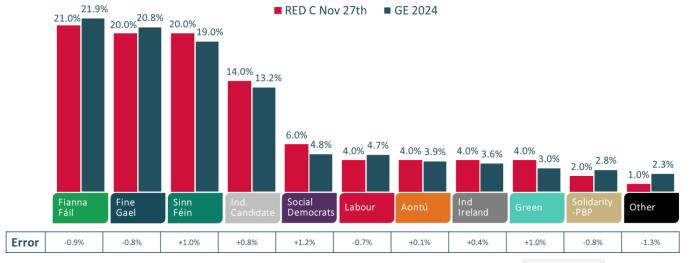
We also correctly predicted that Fianna Fáil would take the greatest vote share. In fact, our average error across the three main parties was just 0.9%. The most accurate by far across all polls conducted in the closing stages of the campaign.

RED C were also the most accurate at predicting the GE 2020 election result, using both a telephone and an online methodology

Polling is conducted on general election vote intention, and should not be compared with other second tier elections.

### RED C final GE 2024 Poll had an average error of just 0.8%

#### Final Online Poll During GE 2024



Average Error



01

Vote Intention @ General Election

### First preference vote intention – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025



With change vs. November 2024 General Election



Sinn Féin **22%** +3

Fianna Fáil
22% =

Fine Gael **20%** -1

Independents 13% =

Other Party 1% =

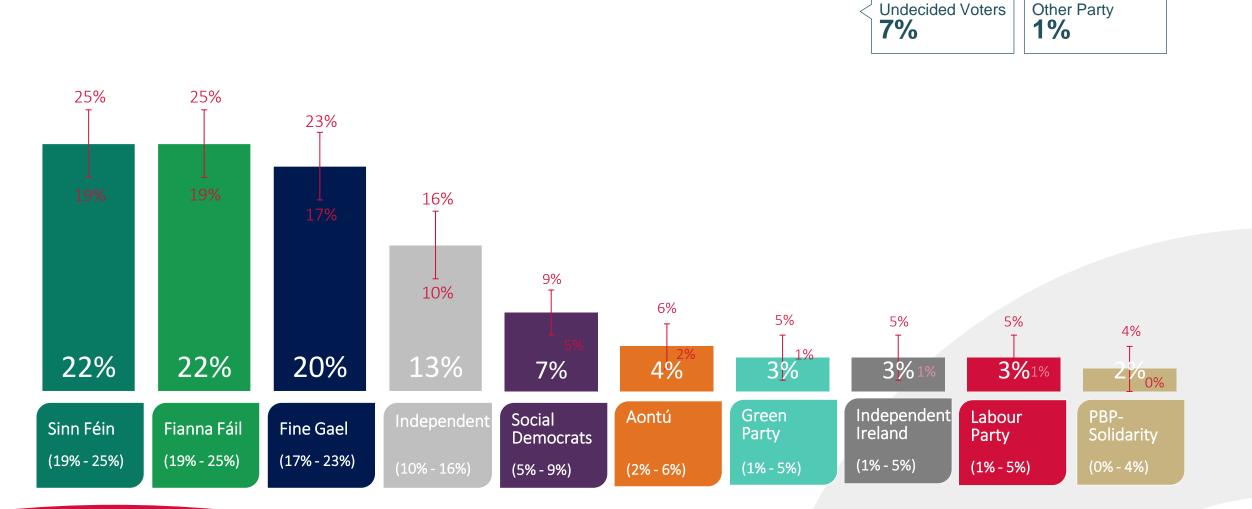
Undecided Voters **7%** 

Q. If the general election was tomorrow which party or independent candidate do you think you would give your first preference vote to? (Past vote weighted)

### First preference vote intention – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025



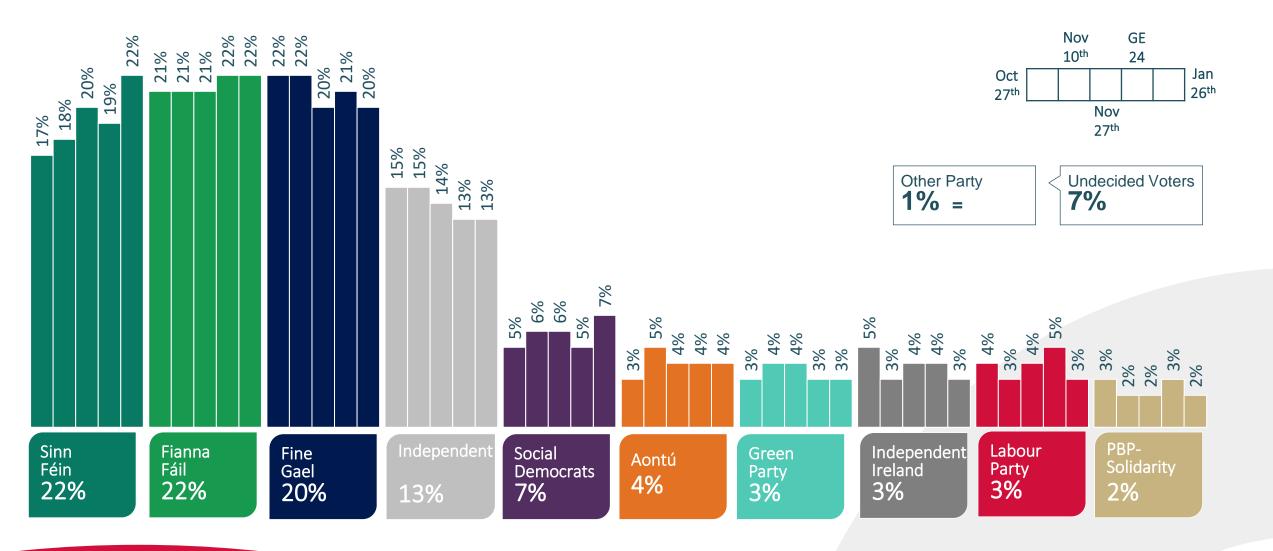
The chart below shows the current claimed first preference party support, and also an estimate of the margin of error that should be applied to each, showing the possible range of support for each party.



#### First preference vote intention



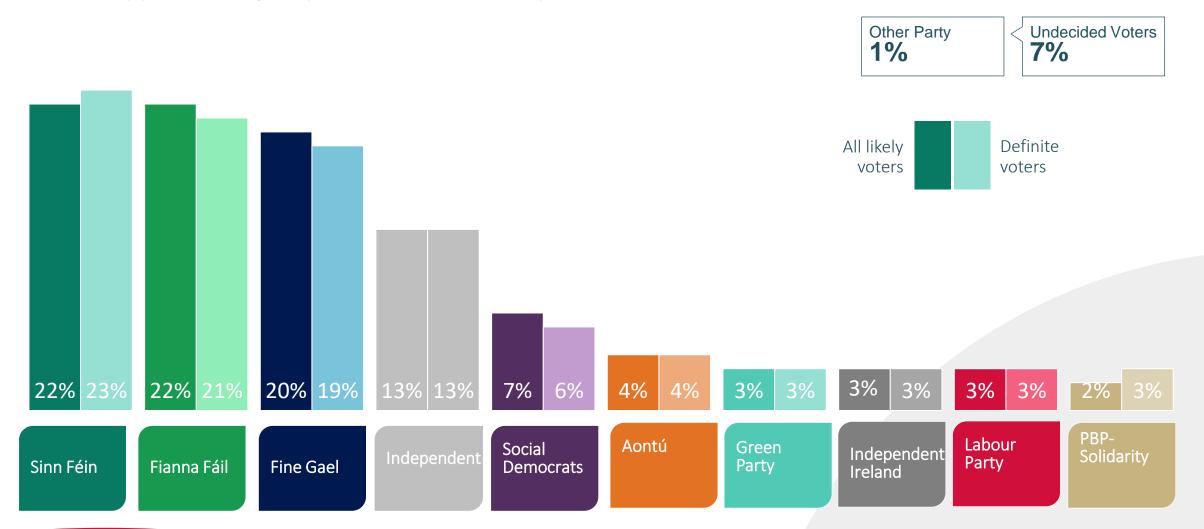




### First preference vote intention – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025



The chart below shows the current claimed first preference party support among all "likely voters", and also the same support among only those that claim they will be "definite" to vote (10 out of 10 on the scale).



#### Core vote intention to turnout weighted data process



26 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Core data	Core data with prompt for most likely party <sup>(1)</sup>	Undecided/ Non Voters Removed	Turnout Weighted <sup>(3)</sup>
Sinn Féin	20%	21%	23%	22%
Fianna Fáil	17%	19%	21%	22%
Fine Gael	17%	17%	19%	20%
An Independent Candidate	11%	12%	13%	13%
Social Democrats	6%	7%	7%	7%
Aontú	3%	3%	4%	4%
Green Party	3%	3%	3%	3%
Independent Ireland	3%	3%	3%	3%
Labour Party	3%	3%	3%	3%
People Before Profit-Solidarity	2%	2%	3%	2%
Other Party	1%	1%	1%	1%
Would not vote	2%	2%		
Undecided	12%	7%		

#### Notes

- For those that initially suggest they are undecided, we prompt with an extra question to ask which party they are most likely to vote for at this moment in time.
- 2. After this prompt we remove those that still say they are undecided, or would not vote, and re-proportion on those expressing a preference.
- 3. Turnout weighting is added based on a algorithm that combines data on how likely someone is to say they plan to vote at the next GE on a 10 point scale, and whether they actually voted at the last election (if they were eligible to do so).

#### First preference vote intention x demographics

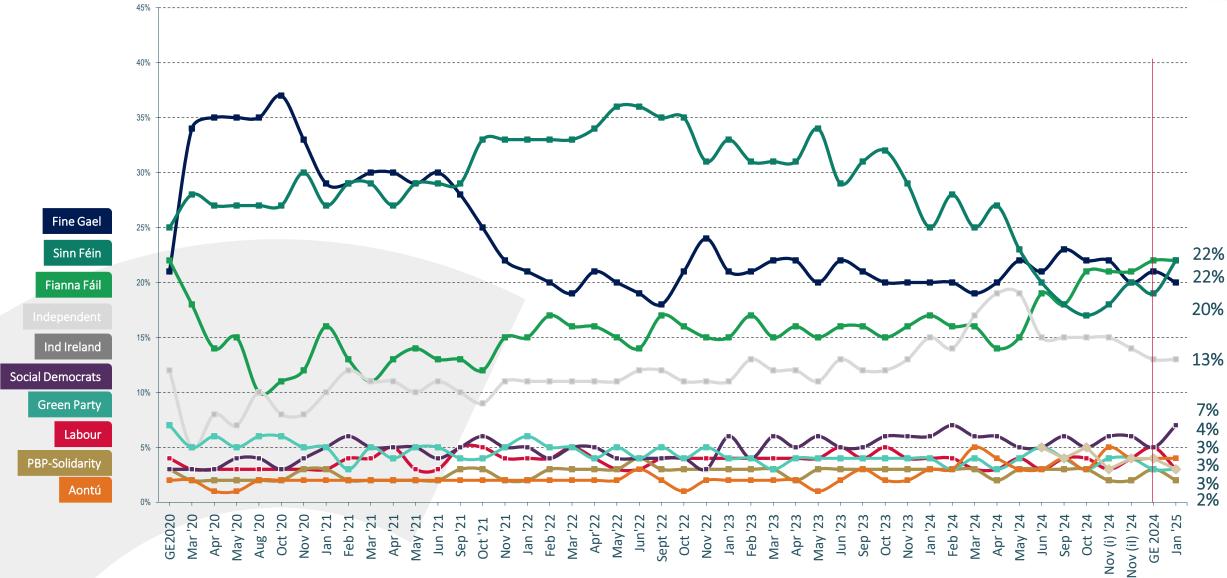


Note: Results on sub sample of the population are based on a much smaller sample size per group, and as such have a much higher margin of error. The results should therefore be treated with caution

26 <sup>th</sup> January 2025		Ger	nder Age			Social Class		Region				
	Total	Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	ABC1	C2DE	Dublin	Rest of Leinster	Munster	Conn/ Ulster
Sinn Féin	22%	21%	23%	28%	25%	16%	18%	29%	22%	26%	15%	26%
Fianna Fáil	22%	23%	20%	16%	21%	25%	27%	17%	18%	21%	25%	22%
Fine Gael	20%	20%	20%	12%	18%	25%	21%	15%	22%	17%	21%	19%
An Independent Candidate	13%	11%	15%	8%	16%	13%	9%	16%	9%	13%	17%	13%
Social Democrats	7%	6%	7%	13%	5%	4%	8%	6%	9%	5%	8%	3%
Aontú	4%	4%	3%	3%	2%	5%	4%	3%	5%	2%	3%	4%
Green Party	3%	3%	3%	5%	3%	2%	4%	2%	4%	3%	4%	1%
Independent Ireland	3%	4%	3%	2%	3%	4%	2%	4%	2%	4%	5%	2%
Labour Party	3%	5%	2%	2%	3%	5%	4%	3%	5%	5%	1%	-
People Before Profit-Solidarity	2%	3%	2%	4%	3%	1%	3%	2%	4%	3%	1%	1%

#### First preference vote intention – since GE 2020



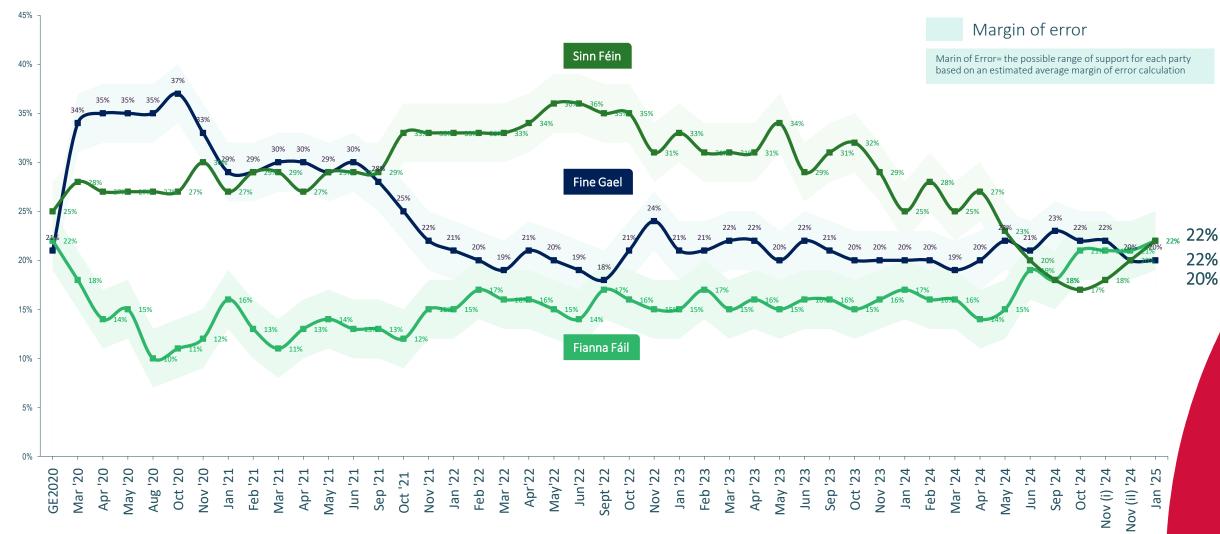


Q. If the general election was tomorrow which party or independent candidate do you think you would give your first preference vote to? (Past vote weighted)

#### First preference vote intention trend over time since GE 2020



The chart below shows the current claimed first preference party support for the three largest parties, and also an estimate of the margin of error that should be applied to each, showing the possible range of support for each party.

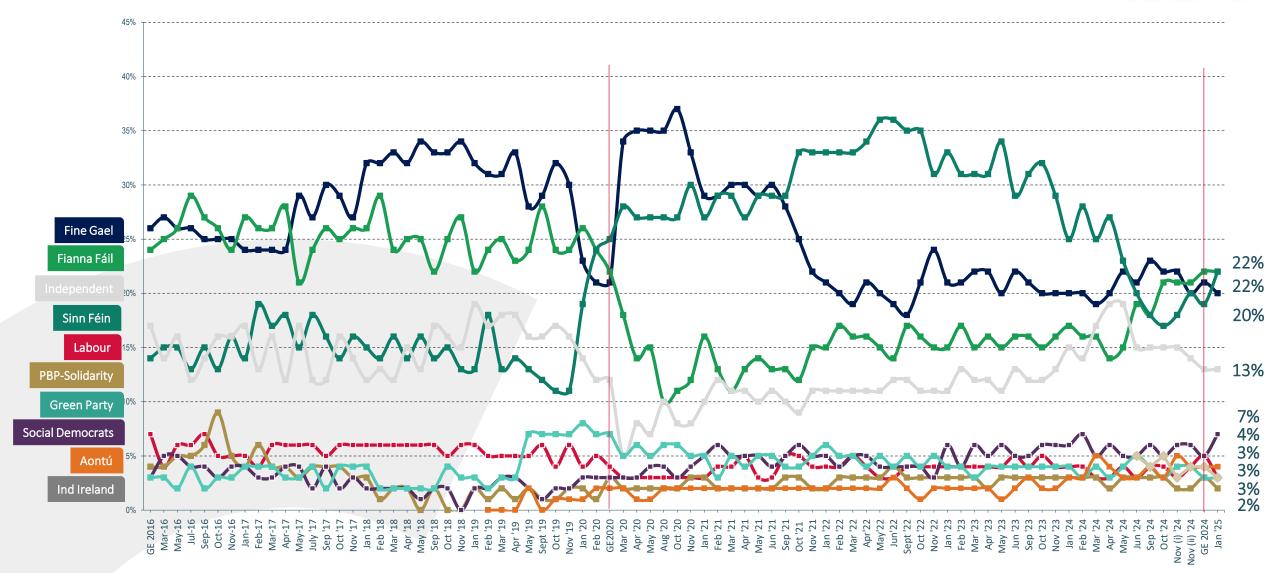


Q. If the general election was tomorrow which party or independent candidate do you think you would give your first preference vote to? (Past vote weighted)

(Base: All adults 18+ who will vote)

#### First preference vote intention – since GE 2016





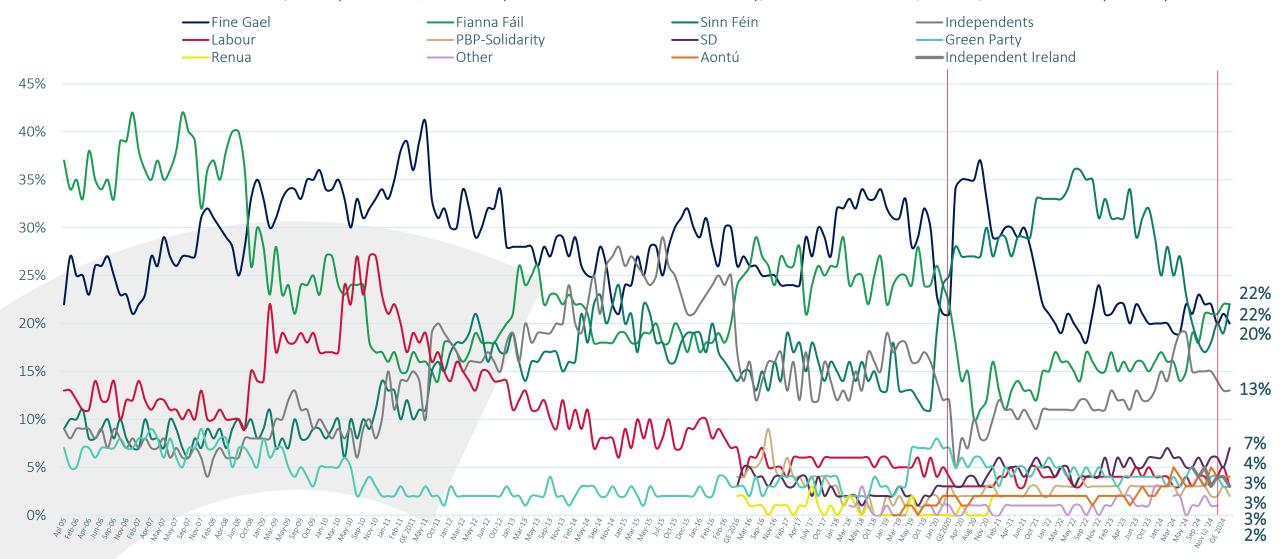
Q. If the general election was tomorrow which party or independent candidate do you think you would give your first preference vote to? (Past vote weighted)

(Base: All adults 18+ who will vote)

#### First preference vote intention – 2005 to 2025



Note: From GE 2016 Onwards, 'Independents/Others' split out to show PBP-Solidarity, Social Democrats, Aontú, Renua etc. separately



Q. If the general election was tomorrow which party or independent candidate do you think you would give your first preference vote to? (Past vote weighted)

(Base: All adults 18+ who will vote)

02

Views on topical political issues

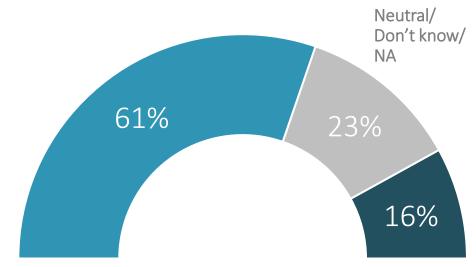
### 3 in 5 back Ryanair's call for a two-drink limit at airport bars



While the majority will continue to use Meta platforms, as much as 1 in 6 indicate they may stop using these platforms

#### Two-drink limit at airport bars Neutral/ Don't know 61% 24% I back Ryanair's call for a two-drink I do not back Ryanair's call limit at airport bars which they for a two-drink limit at believe will help reduce airport bars which they passengers disrupting flights believe will help reduce passengers disrupting flights

#### Use of Meta platforms



I will <u>continue</u> to use Meta platforms (such as Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) despite their move away from fact-checking\*

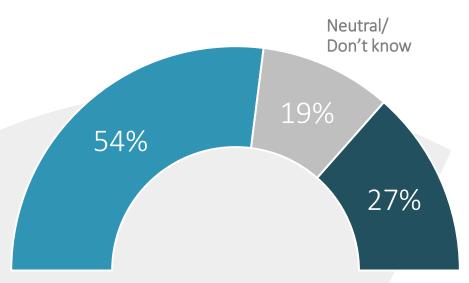
I will <u>stop</u> using Meta platforms (such as Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) due to their move away from fact-checking\*

### Clear preference to spend surplus on services/infrastructure **REDC**



Little consensus on whether Ireland should forge closer relations with the Trump White House or support the EU taking a tough stance against White House threats to trade and tariffs

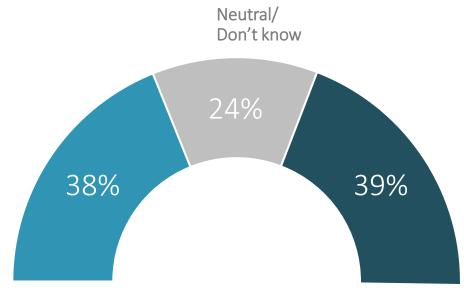
#### Spend vs save budget surplus



The government should primarily use this year's €10 billion budget surplus to spend more on public services and infrastructure

The government should primarily save much of this year's €10 billion surplus to protect us in the event of an economic downturn

#### Relations with White House



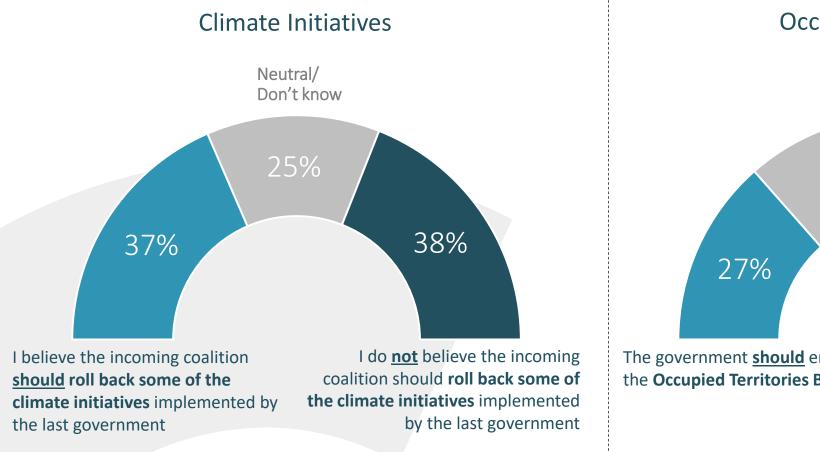
Ireland should forge closer relations with the Trump White **House** to try and avoid tariffs and an impact on trade

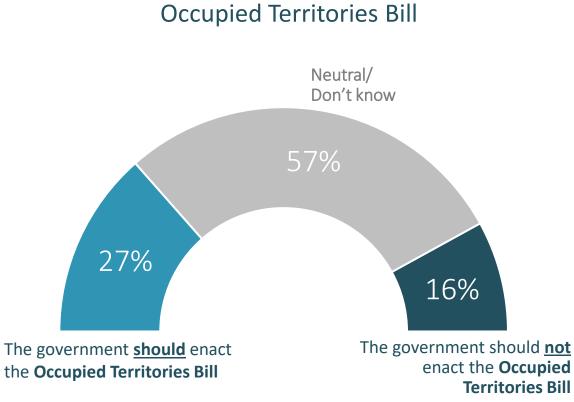
Ireland should support a tougher stance at an EU level against the Trump White House's threats to trades and tariffs

#### **Evident polarisation on issue of climate initiatives**



A comparable number support and oppose the government rolling back on climate initiatives. The majority are unsure whether the Occupied Territories Bill should be enacted or have no opinion.





### 3 in 5 would support the two-drink limit at airport bars



Support for the two-drink limit is strongest among women, older age cohorts, and lower social grades. Nonetheless, support outweights oppositions among all demographics.

I <u>back</u> Ryanair's call for a **two-drink limit at airport bars** which they believe will help reduce passengers disrupting flights

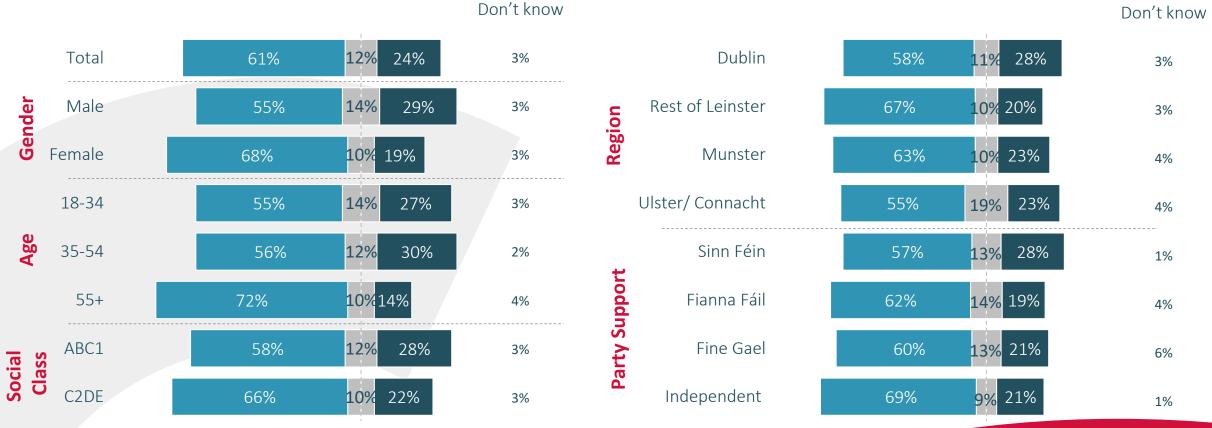
Neutral

I do <u>not</u> back Ryanair's call for a two-drink limit at airport bars which they believe will help reduce passengers disrupting flights

I <u>back</u> Ryanair's call for a **two-drink limit at airport bars** which they believe will help reduce passengers disrupting flights

Neutral

I do <u>not</u> back Ryanair's call for a two-drink limit at airport bars which they believe will help reduce passengers disrupting flights



#### Majority will continue to use Meta platforms



While the majority plan to continue to use Meta platforms, as many as 1 in 6 users may stop using them due to concerns around fact-checking

I will <u>continue</u> to use Meta platforms (such as Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) despite their move away from fact-checking\*

Neutral

I will <u>stop</u> using Meta platforms (such as Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) due to their move away from fact-checking\*

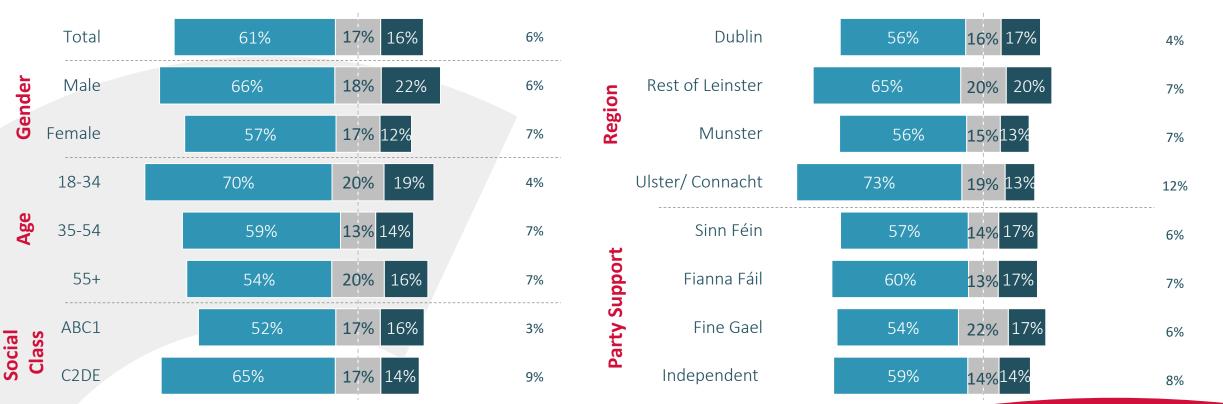
Don't know

I will continue to use Meta platforms (such as Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) despite their move away from factchecking\*

Neutral

I will <u>stop</u> using Meta platforms (such as Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp) due to their move away from fact-checking\*

Don't know



### Clear preference for spending on services and infrastructure **REDC**



Twice as many would prioritise greater public spending as would prioritise saving most of this year's surplus. Independent and Sinn Féin voters are most in favour of spending, however spending beats saving in all cohorts.

The government should primarily use this year's €10 billion budget surplus to spend more on public services and infrastructure

Neutral

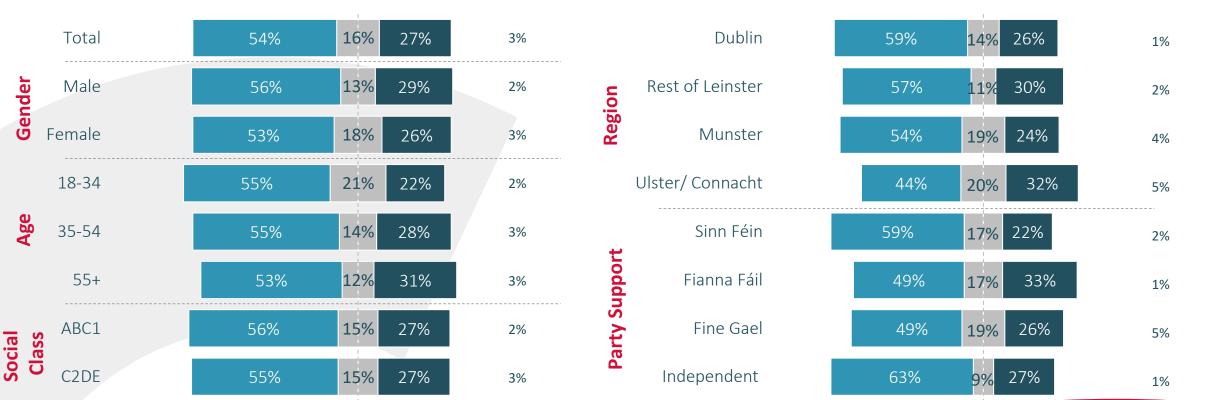
The government should primarily save much of this year's €10 billion surplus to protect us in the event of an economic downturn Don't know

The government should primarily use this year's €10 billion budget surplus to spend more on public services and infrastructure

Neutral

The government should primarily save much of this year's €10 billion surplus to protect us in the event of an economic downturn

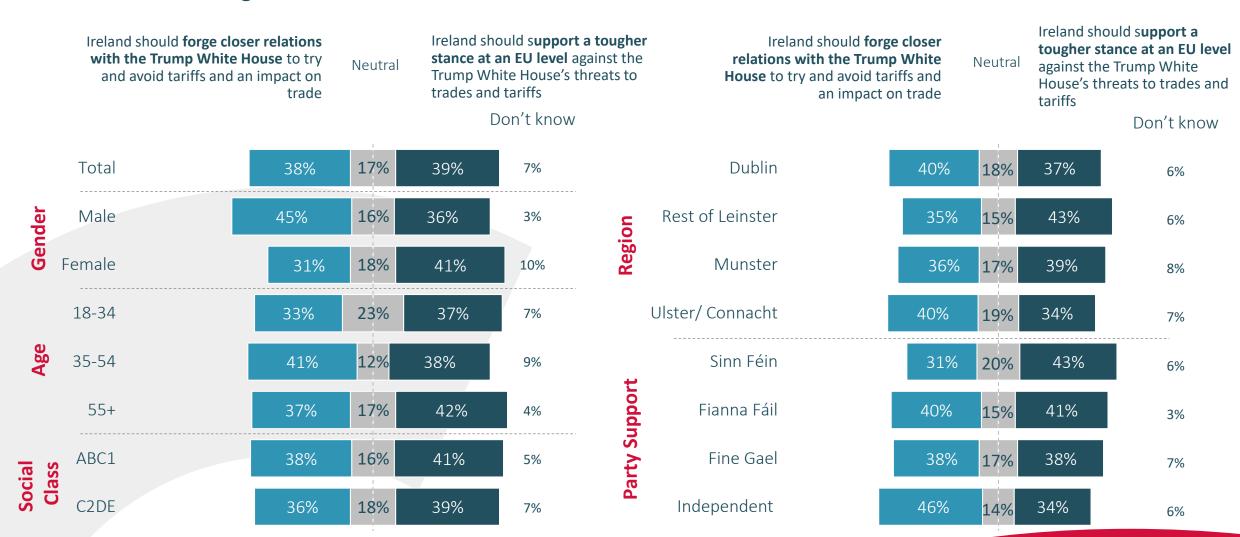
Don't know



#### Split on whether Trump should be appeased or confronted

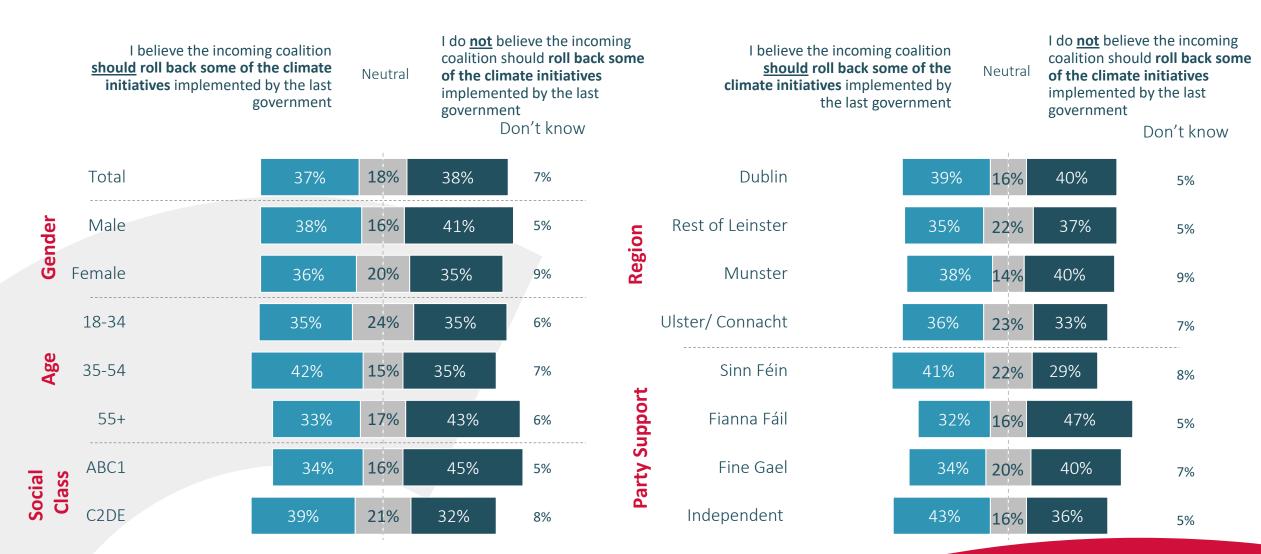


Most demographics are split on whether Ireland should focus on forging close relations with the Trump White House or taken a tougher stance at an EU level



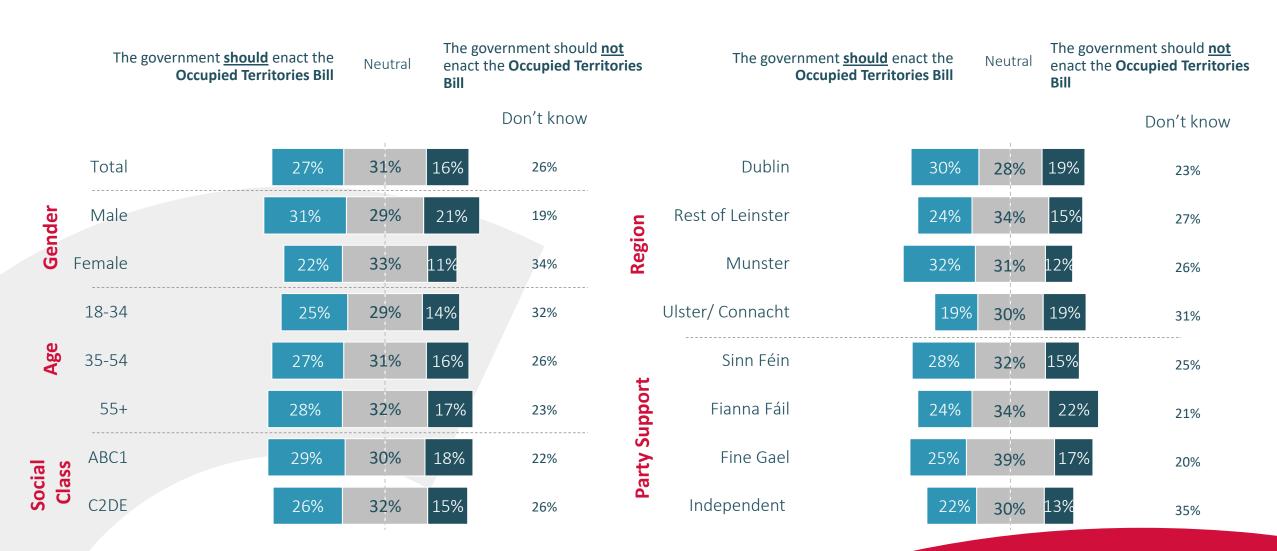
### Uncertainty on whether climate initiatives should be rolled back REDC

This would likely be a divisive issue for government, though more FF/FG supporters than no believe these should stay in place.



## Large levels of uncertainty surrounded the now suspended bill REDC Most Irish people are either neutral or uncertain about whether this is something the government puts

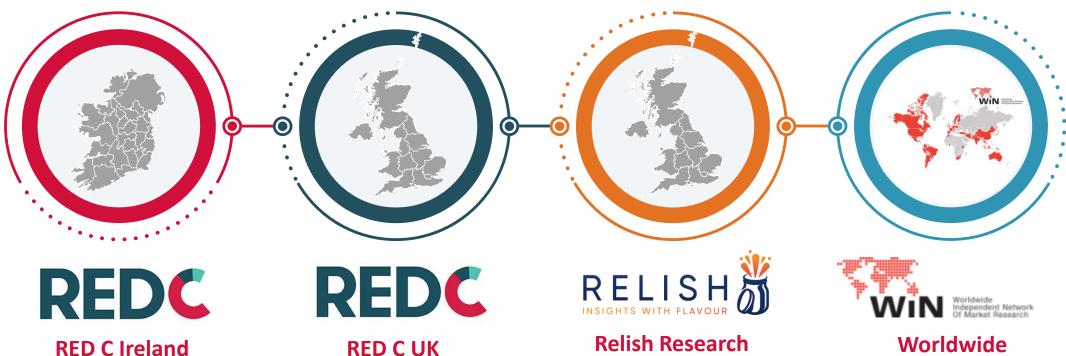
forward.



About RED C

#### RED C Group conduct research worldwide from Dublin & London

The RED C Research Group is made up of the RED C and Relish brands, with support from our partners in WIN.



Our founding agency is the largest independent market research agency in the Republic of Ireland with a staff of close to 50

Our fast-growing UK agency, that specialises in international qualitative and quantitative research in the media, sports and kids industries

#### **Relish Research**

Our newly acquired UK based research business, that specialises in understanding customers and helping subscription based business in the UK market

#### Worldwide **Independent Network**

Partner agencies in 35 markets across the globe help us design international projects with local market insights

We help brands grow by clearly understanding human needs and behaviour

### RESEARCH EVALUATION DIRECTION CLARITY



### Understanding Behaviour

We measure behaviour, needs, and attitudes to better understand opportunities and target the market



### **Building Brands**

We know how to build brands, through mental availability, distinctiveness, emotional connections and differentiation.



### Improving **Experiences**

We map customer journeys, understand pain points, and monitor moments of truth to help you delight and retain customers.

Underpinned by understanding of real human behaviour, and using a set of specially designed products





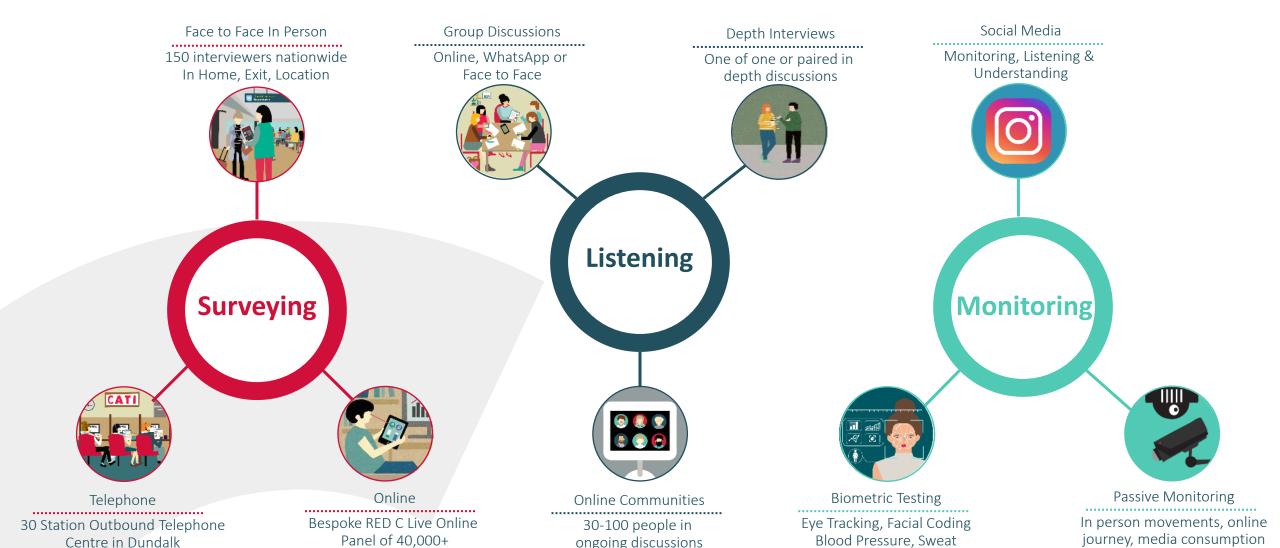
**RED Star** 

In markets across the world



#### Using a variety of techniques to uncover & understand





# RESEARCH EVALUATION DIRECTION CLARITY

See More, Clearly



REDC