

# Childcare Barometer 2018

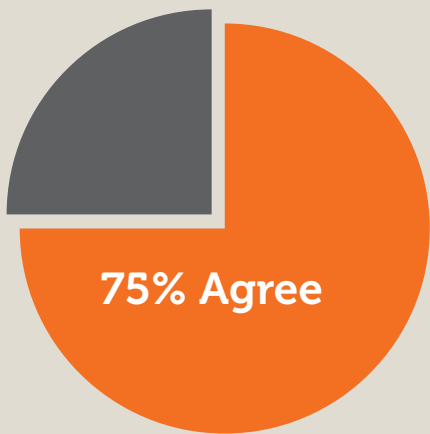
## Public Attitudes to Early Years Care & Education



Early Childhood Ireland commissioned Red C to find out the views of Irish people about childcare. 1,004 adults aged 18+ were interviewed over the telephone between 18th and 25th January 2018. For each statement participants were asked for their level of agreement.

### 1 The education of children under 5 is as important as the education of children over 5

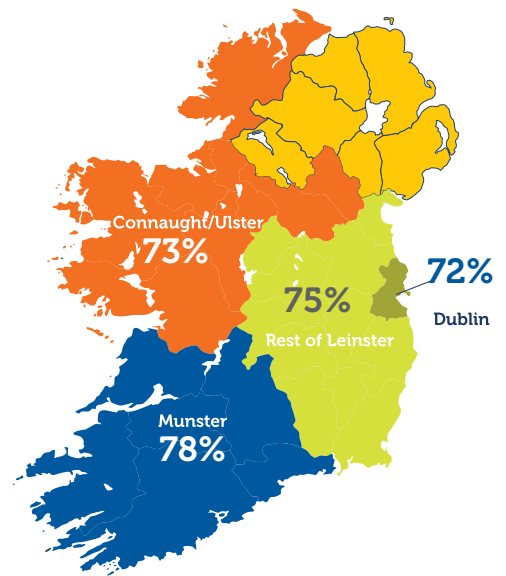
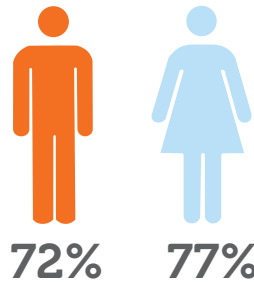
#### All Adults



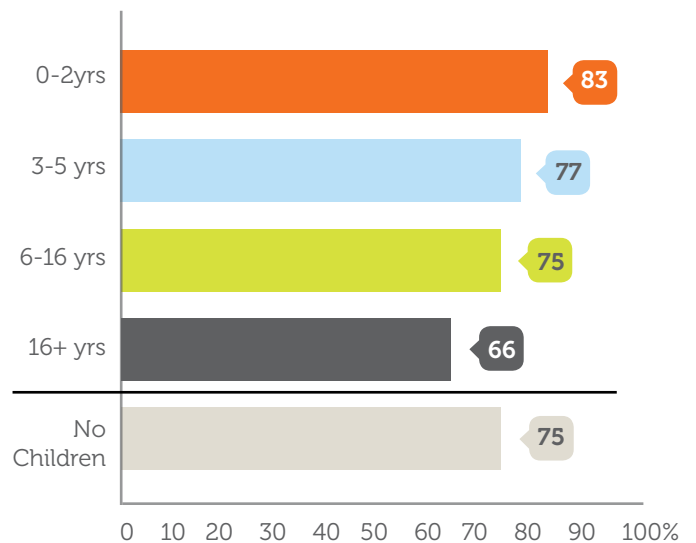
7% disagree  
17% neither agree nor disagree  
1% don't know

#### Regional

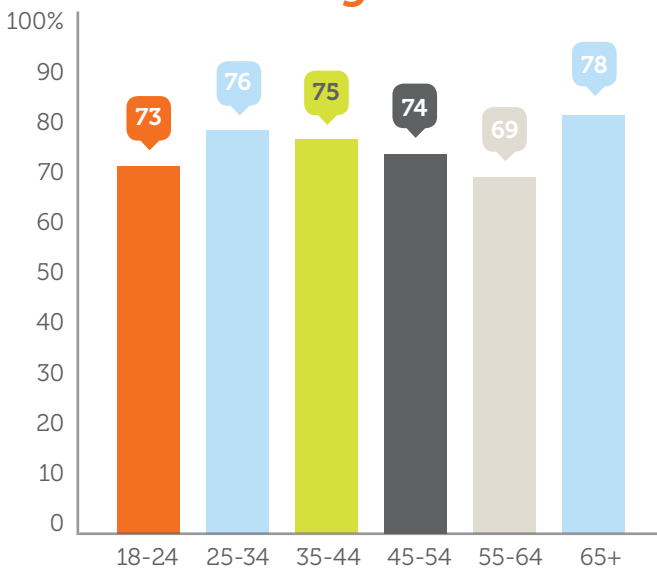
#### Gender



#### Parents with children aged



#### Age

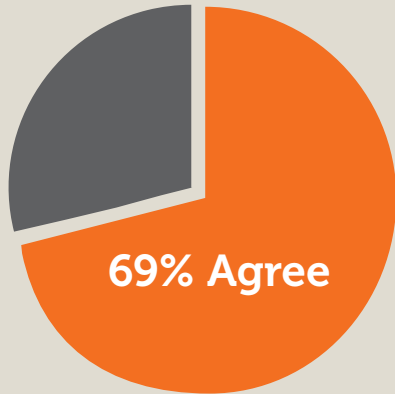


There is relatively little difference in opinion across demographics on the importance of education under 5 versus over 5, however agreement declines among those with older children.

## 2

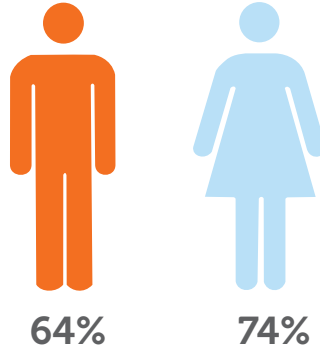
All parents should be financially supported to stay at home with their child for the first 12 months of the child's life

### All Adults

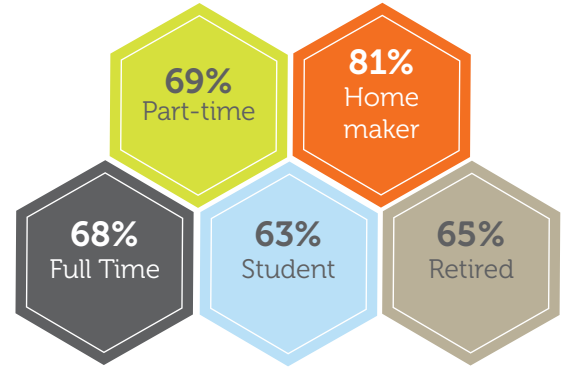


9% disagree  
19% neither agree nor disagree  
2% don't know

### Gender



### Work Status

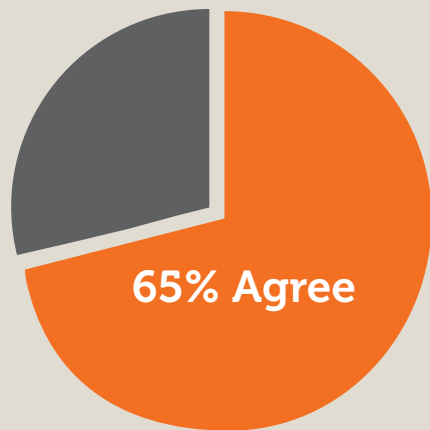


Almost 7 in 10 adults agree that parents should be financially supported to stay at home.

## 3

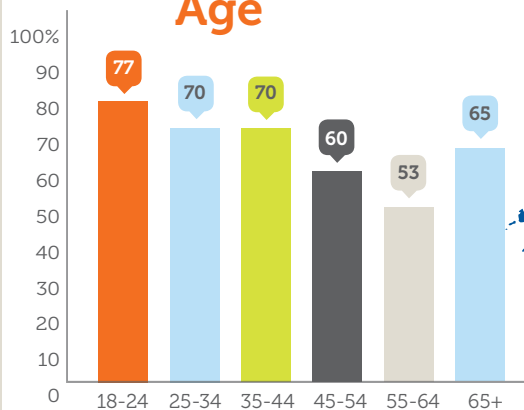
Similar to primary education in Ireland, childcare should be available free to all children

### All Adults

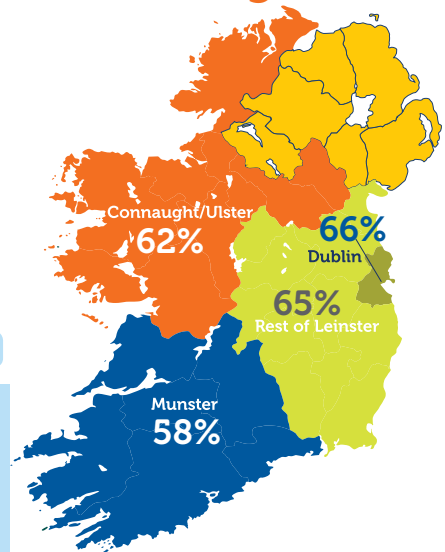


10% disagree  
22% neither agree nor disagree  
3% don't know

### Age



### Regional

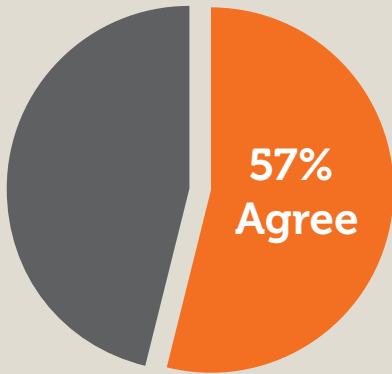


2 in 3 believe that childcare should be free in Ireland.

# 4

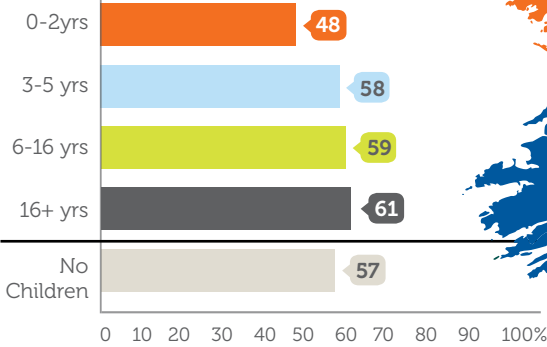
## Parents should only pay towards childcare in line with their overall income

### All Adults

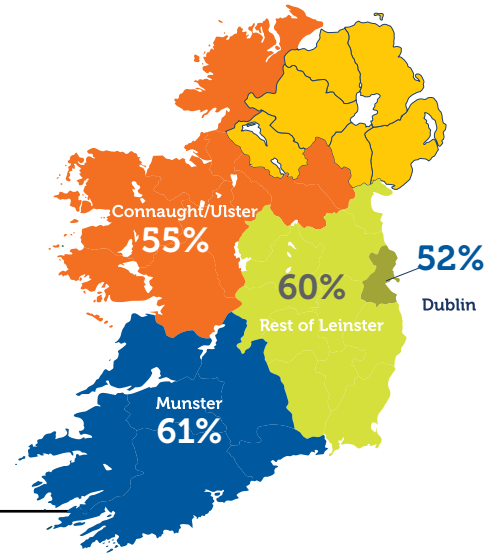


10% disagree  
29% neither agree nor disagree  
4% don't know

### Parents with children aged



### Regional

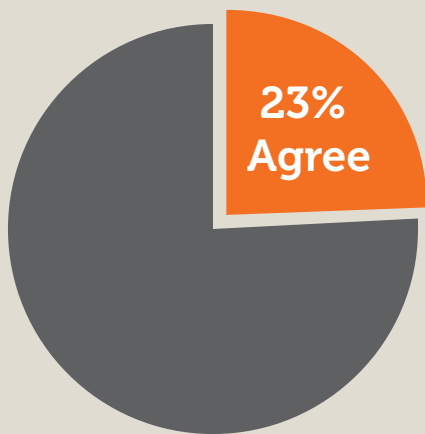


Just under 6 in 10 believe parents should pay for childcare in line with their income.

# 5

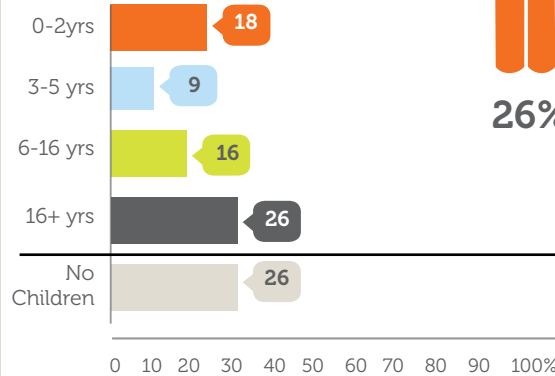
## Parents should be fully responsible for the cost of childcare

### All Adults

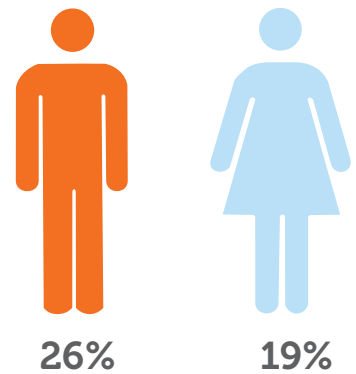


39% disagree  
37% neither agree nor disagree  
2% don't know

### Parents with children aged



### Gender

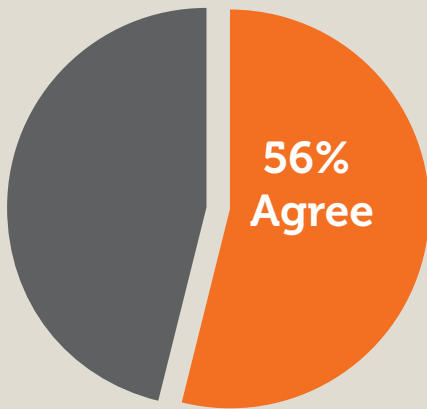


Just under 1 in 4 agree that parents should be fully responsible for the cost of childcare.

# 6

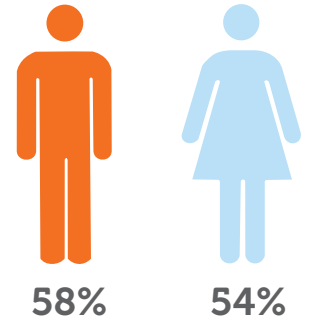
## Staff working in childcare services are qualified professionals like teachers, nurses & others

### All Adults

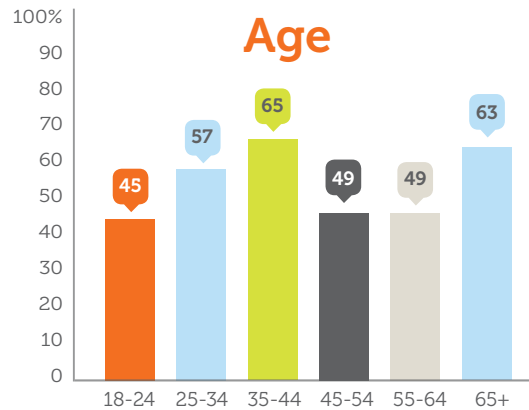


10% disagree  
29% neither agree nor disagree  
5% don't know

### Gender



### Age

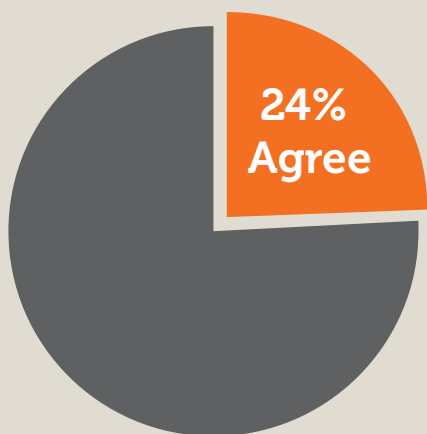


56% believe that childcare staff are qualified professionals.

# 7

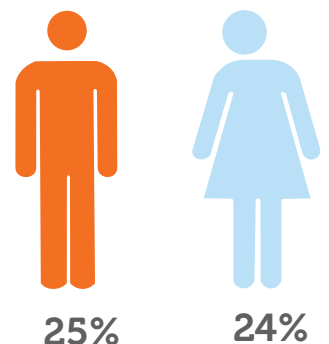
## The Living Wage in Ireland is €11.70 per hour. Staff working in childcare services earn an average hourly wage of €11.93. This average rate reflects the value of this work.

### All Adults

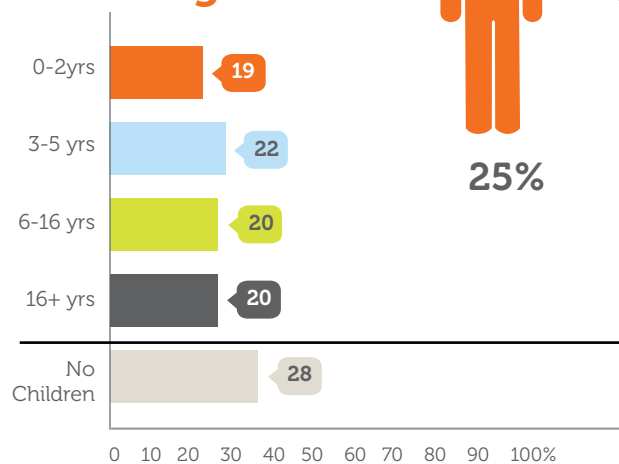


42% disagree  
29% neither agree nor disagree  
5% don't know

### Gender



### Parents with children aged



Just 1 in 4 agree that the average rate reflects the value of staff in childcare services.