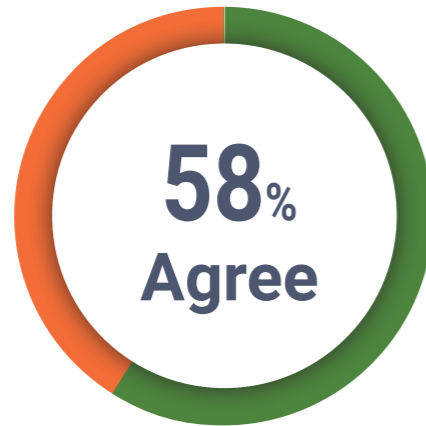


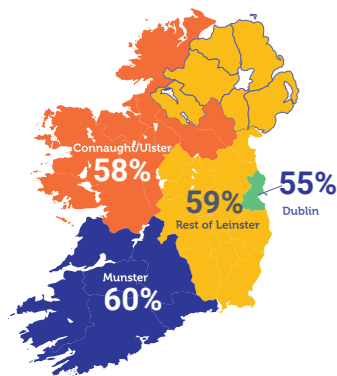
I believe all employers should be legally obliged to top-up wages when the parents of new babies are on maternity or paternity leave.

Every child should be guaranteed access to high quality and inclusive early years and school age care in their community.

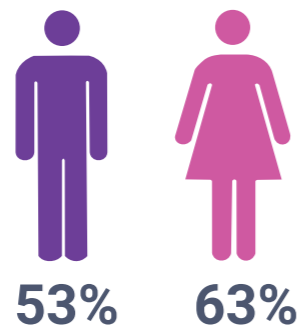
All Adults



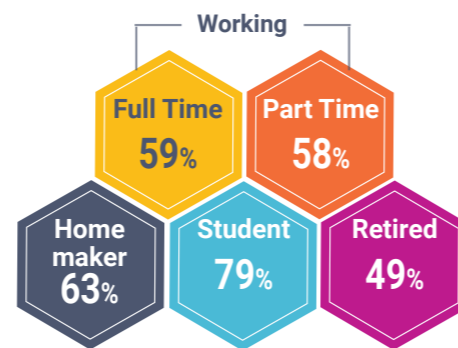
Regional



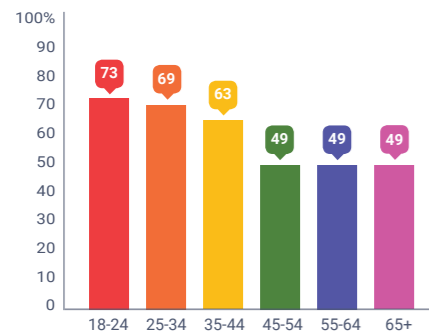
Gender Breakdown



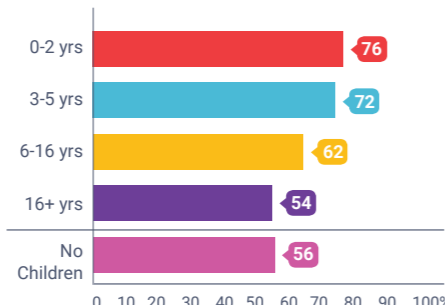
Work Status



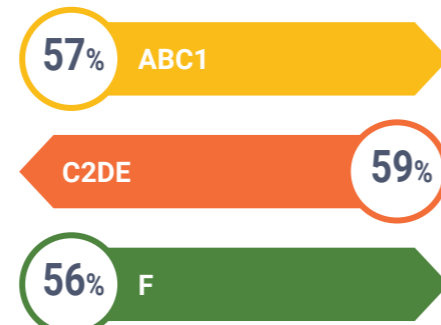
Age



Adults with children aged



Social Class\*

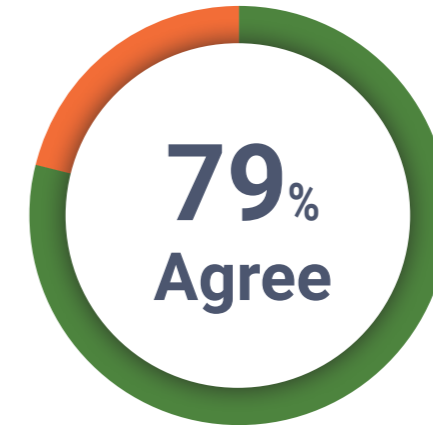


\*Social Class:  
ABC1 = Managerial, administrative or professional workers;  
C2DE = Skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers, casual workers, pensioners & unemployed;  
F = Farmers & agricultural workers.

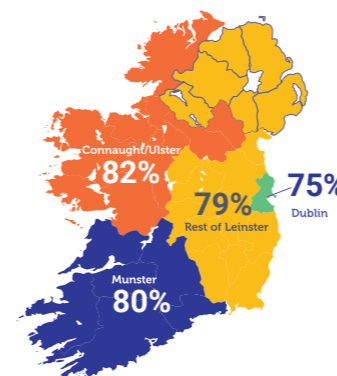
Since 2018, Early Childhood Ireland has commissioned RED C annually to find out the views of Irish people about Early Years and School Age Care. This year 1,003 adults aged 18+ were interviewed online between 20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

The sample size was quota controlled by age, gender, socio-economic status, and region to ensure a fully representative sample. The margin of error on a sample size of 1,003 is +/- 3.2%.

All Adults



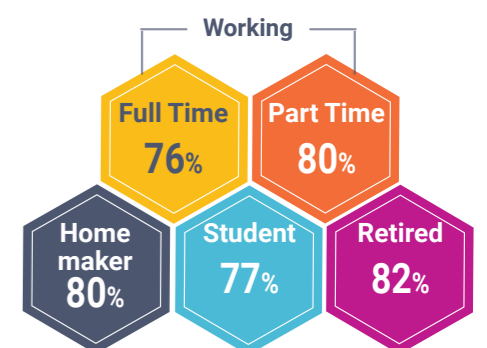
Regional



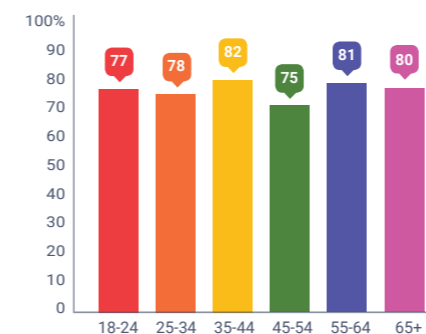
Gender Breakdown



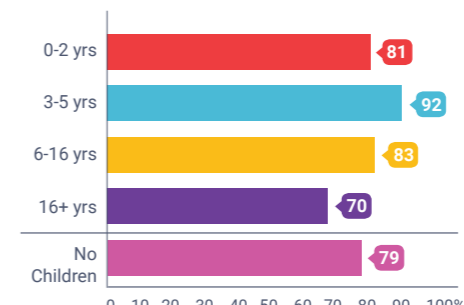
Work Status



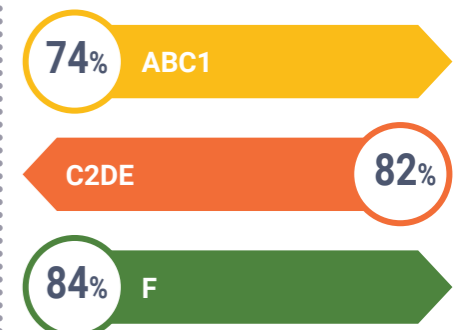
Age



Adults with children aged



Social Class\*



\*Social Class:  
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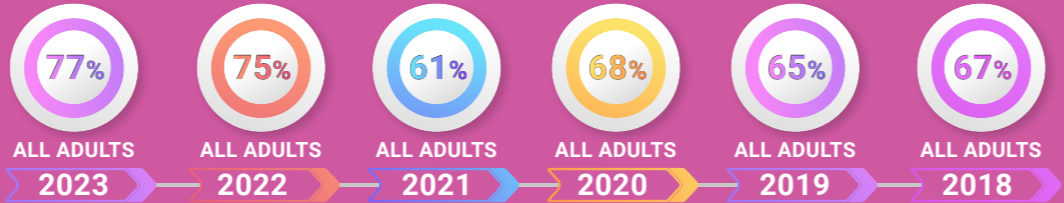
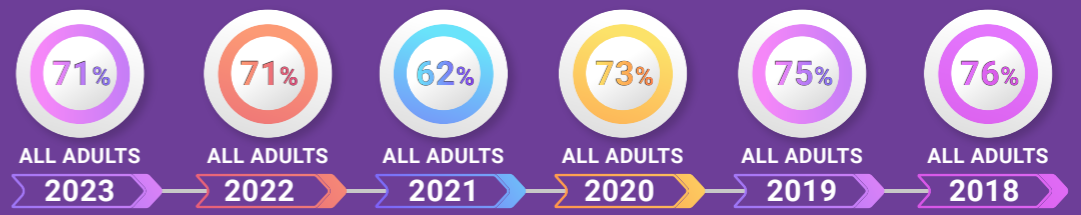


Ireland is at an all-time high in terms of support for free, high quality early years care for children.



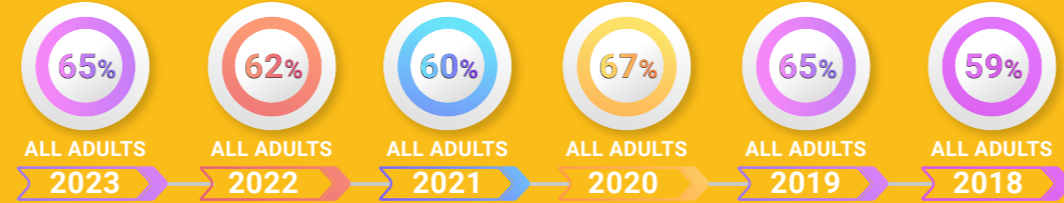
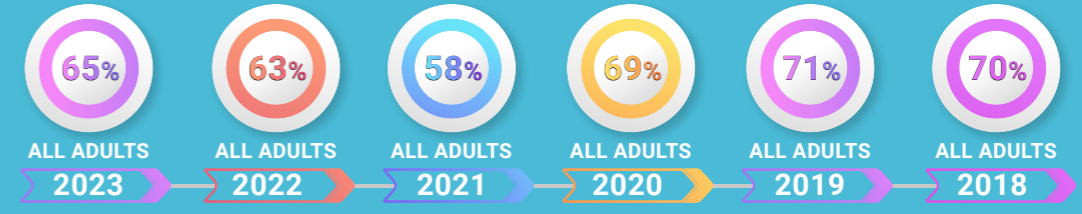
Our year-on-year national polling shows consistently high levels of support among the Irish public for children and staff in our vital sector.

The education of children under 5 is as important as the education of children over 5.



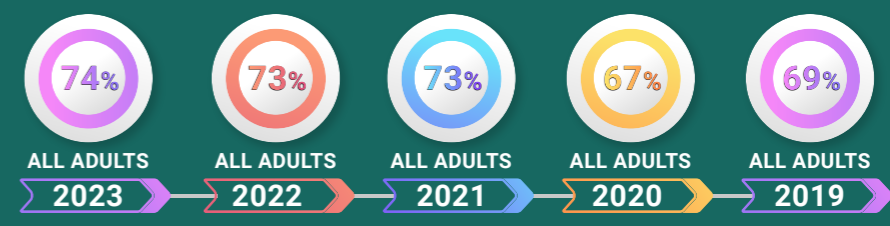
Similar to primary education in Ireland, childcare should be available free to all children.

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



Parents should only pay toward childcare in line with their overall income.

Under EU guidelines, early years staff who work directly with children must be as qualified as other professionals such as nurses and teachers. When this occurs, the terms and conditions of their employment contract should reflect this.



\*Note: This was included from 2019 only.