

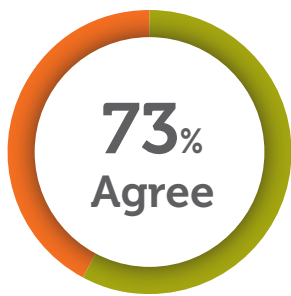
# Childcare Barometer 2021

## Public Attitudes to Early Years Care & Education

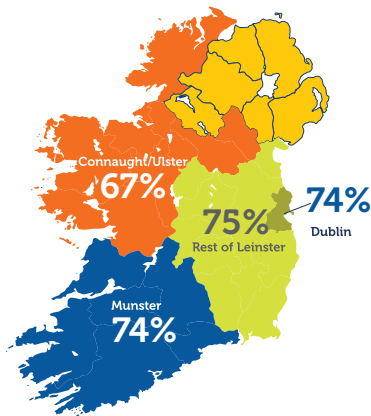
Early Childhood Ireland commissioned RED C to find out the views of Irish people about childcare. 1,029 adults aged 18+ were interviewed online between the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The margin of error on a sample size of 1,000 is +/- 3.2%.

**The government has a significant responsibility when it comes to making sure that childcare settings have sufficient funding to operate under Covid-19 restrictions.**

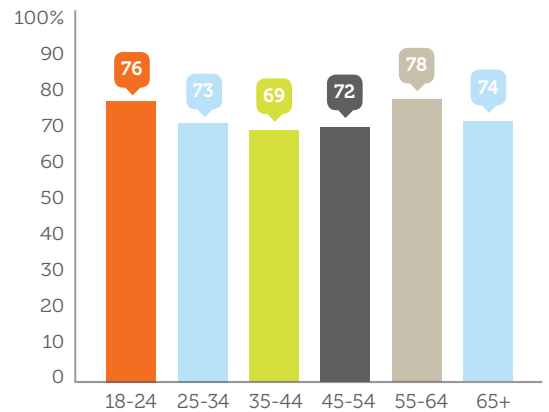
### All Adults



### Regional



### Age

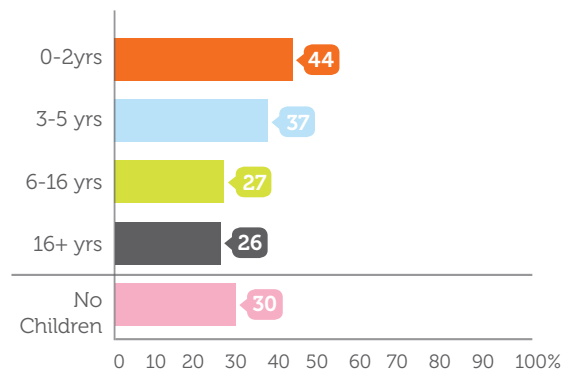


**As of now, childcare settings are open for children of essential workers and vulnerable children only. This should change and they should open for all children during periods of Level 5 restrictions.**

### All Adults

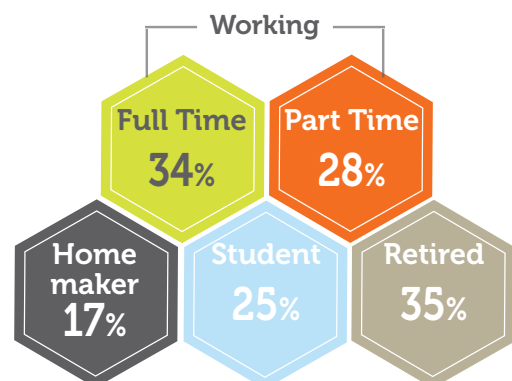


### Adults with children aged



There is a high level of agreement that significant responsibility lies with the government to ensure that childcare settings have sufficient funding to operate under Covid-19 restrictions. On the question of whether childcare settings should open more fully, there is mixed agreement, with parents and those working full-time showing the highest levels of support.

### Work Status

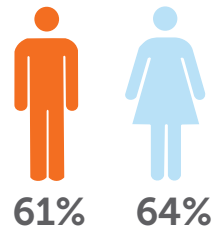


The education of children under 5 is as important as the education of children over 5.

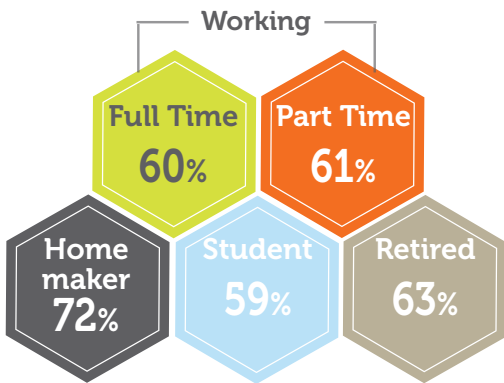
### All Adults



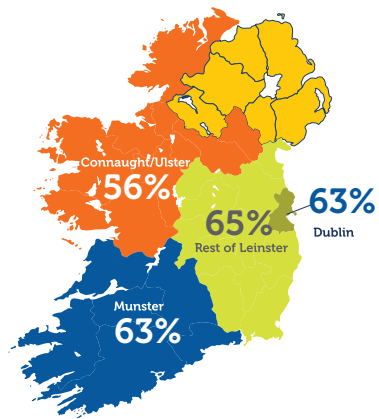
### Gender Breakdown



### Work Status

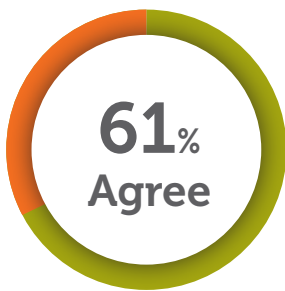


### Regional

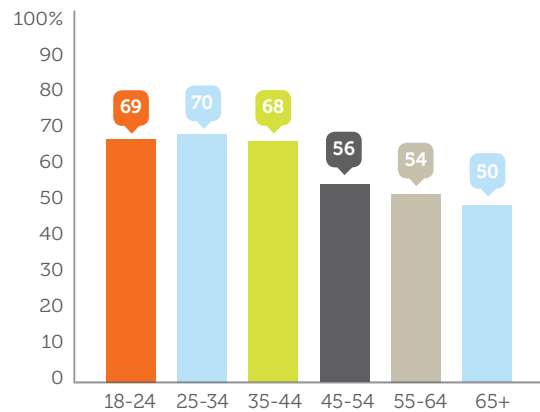


Similar to primary education in Ireland, childcare should be available free to all children.

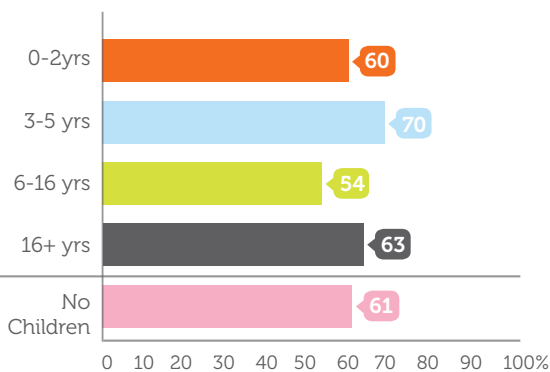
### All Adults



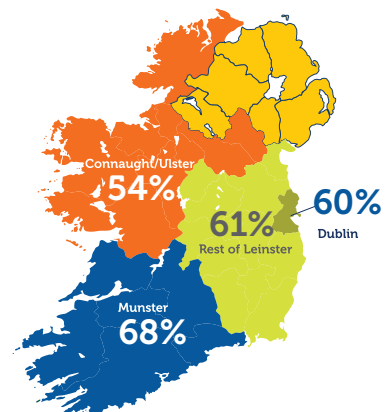
### Age



### Adults with children aged



### Regional

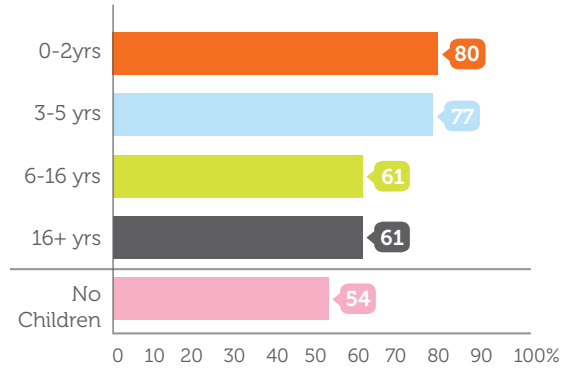


**All parents should be financially supported to stay at home with their child for the first 12 months of the child's life.**

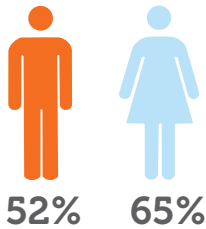
**All Adults**



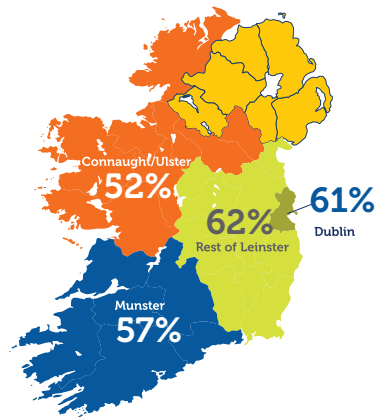
**Adults with children aged**



**Gender Breakdown**



**Regional**

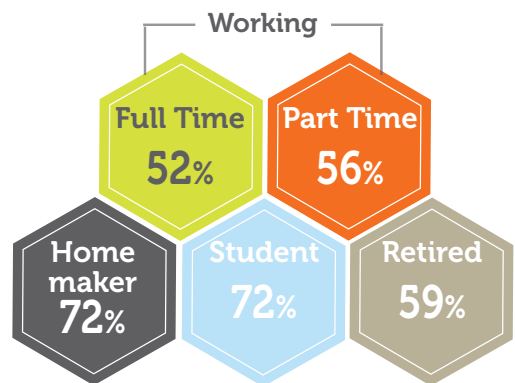


**Parents should only pay toward childcare in line with their overall income.**

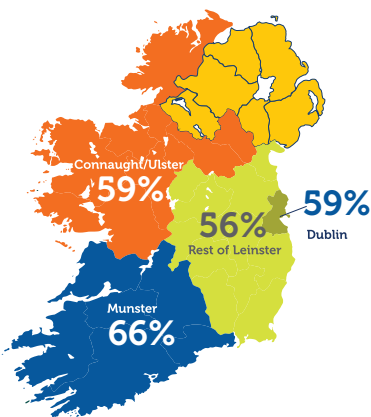
**All Adults**



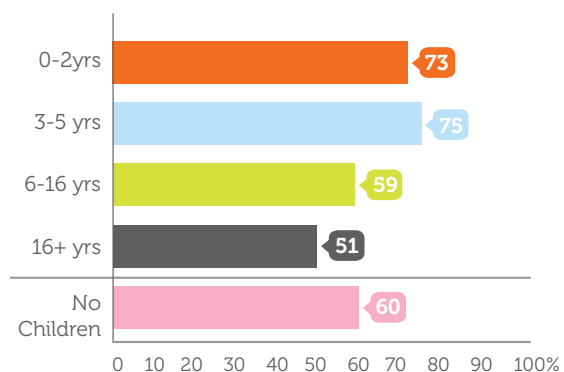
**Work Status**



**Regional**

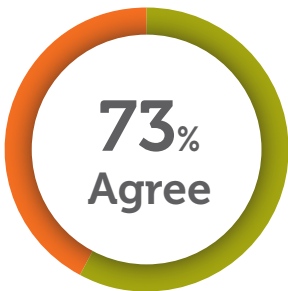


**Adults with children aged**

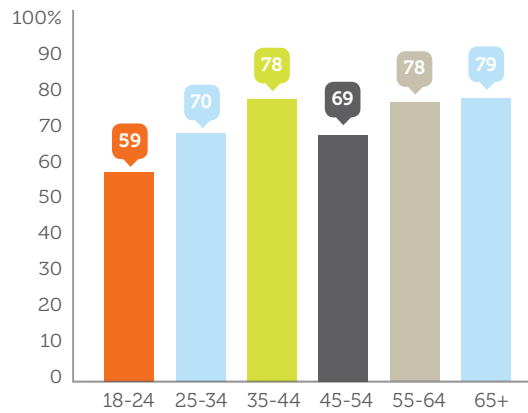


By 2022, under EU guidelines, childcare staff who work directly with children must be qualified as other professionals such as nurses and teachers. When this occurs, the terms and conditions of their employment contract should reflect this fact.

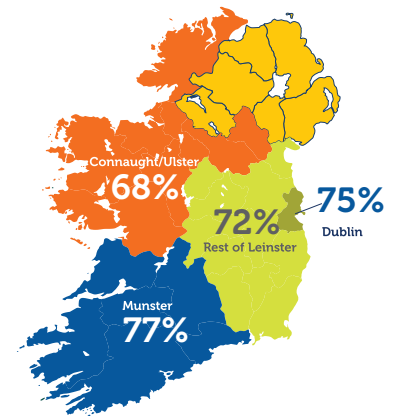
### All Adults



### Age



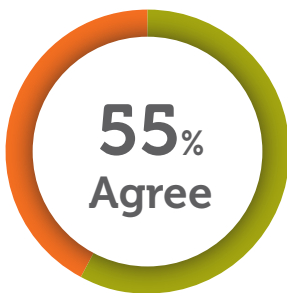
### Regional



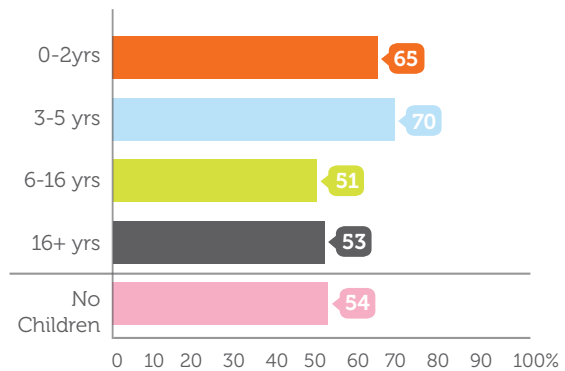
This a steep rise in support for better terms and conditions for qualified childcare staff, since last year which was 65%.

The government should pay the wages of childcare staff as is the case with school teachers.

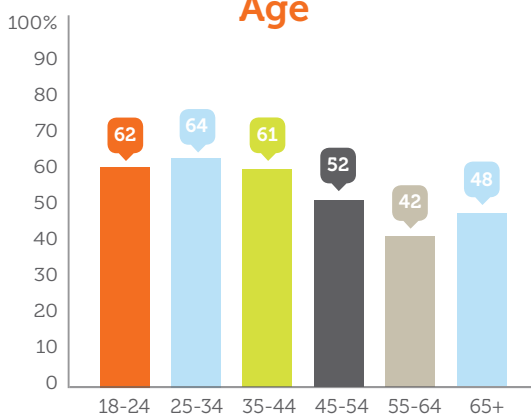
### All Adults



### Adults with children aged



### Age



### Regional

