



**Friends of  
the Earth  
Ireland**

# Friends of the Earth

*Headline Report  
19<sup>th</sup> May 2020*

**Opinions**  
clarity and confidence

# What we did

- Online Omnibus Survey
- N=1,021 adults in Ireland  
Nationally Representative
- Quota controls on Sex, Age  
Social Grade and Region
- Fieldwork: 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> May, 2020



# What we asked

Now that negotiations have commenced on the formation of the next government. Here are some things that other people have said about Government priorities after Covid-19. Can you please choose whether you agree or disagree with each?

- ☐ The government should be guided by science and expert advice on climate action as they have been on Covid 19
- ☐ In the economic recovery after Covid-19, it's important that government actions prioritise climate change
- ☐ The government should create jobs by supporting work to make all homes more energy efficient
- ☐ Investment in transport should prioritise safe cycling, walking and public transport over private cars
- ☐ Emissions from agriculture need to be reduced by supporting a move to more sustainable farming

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

*“Negotiations have commenced on the formation of the next government and the post-Covid recovery plan. If the new government does not act now to combat climate change, it will be failing the people of Ireland”*

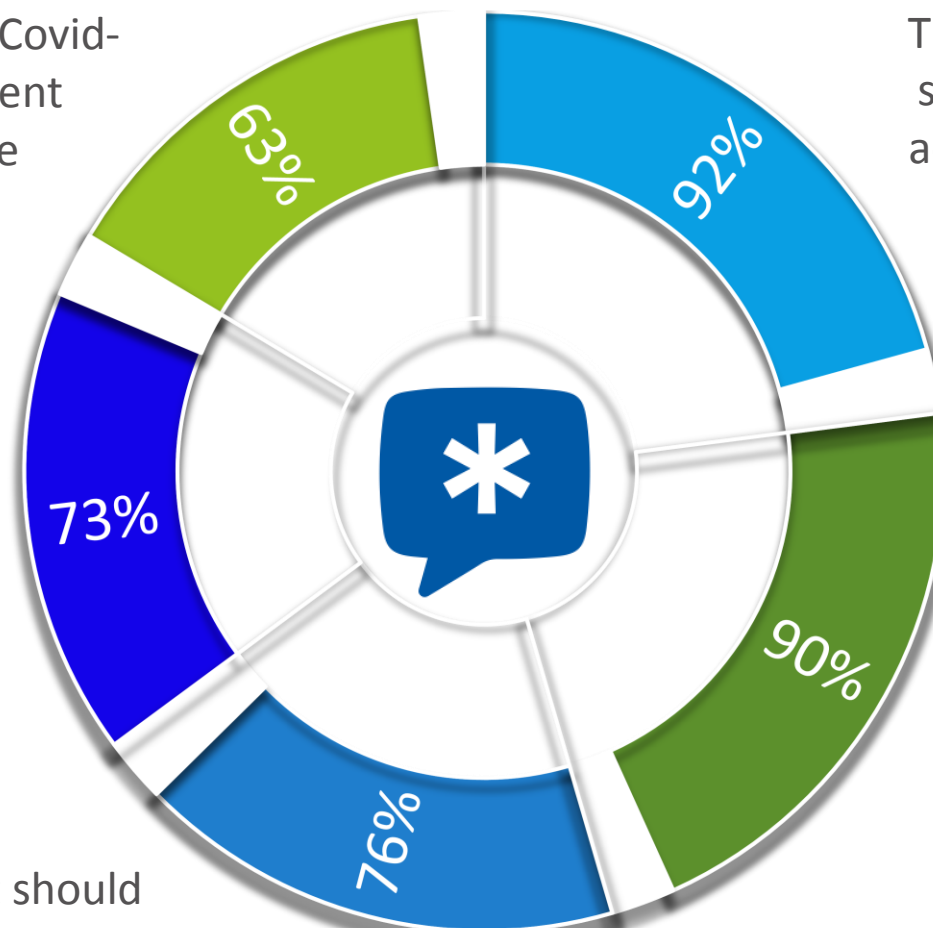
- ☐ Strongly Disagree
- ☐ Disagree Somewhat
- ☐ Agree Somewhat
- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Don't Know

# % Agree Overview

Base: All Adults, n=1,021

In the economic recovery after Covid-19, it's important that government actions prioritise climate change

The government should be guided by science and expert advice on climate action as they have been on Covid 19



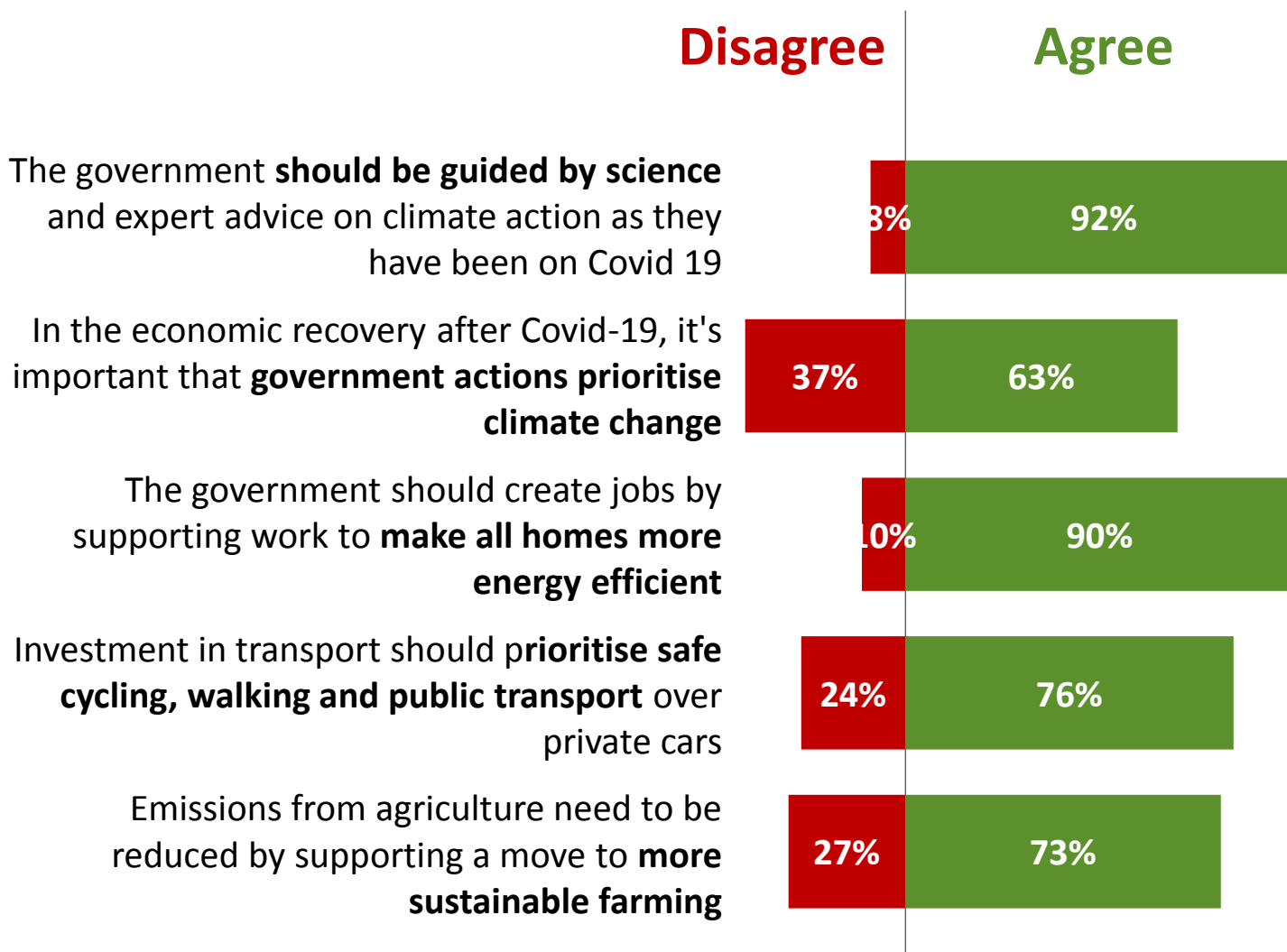
Emissions from agriculture need to be reduced by supporting a move to more sustainable farming

The government should create jobs by supporting work to make all homes more energy efficient

Investment in transport should prioritise safe cycling, walking and public transport over private cars

# % Agree Summary

Base: All Adults, n=1,021

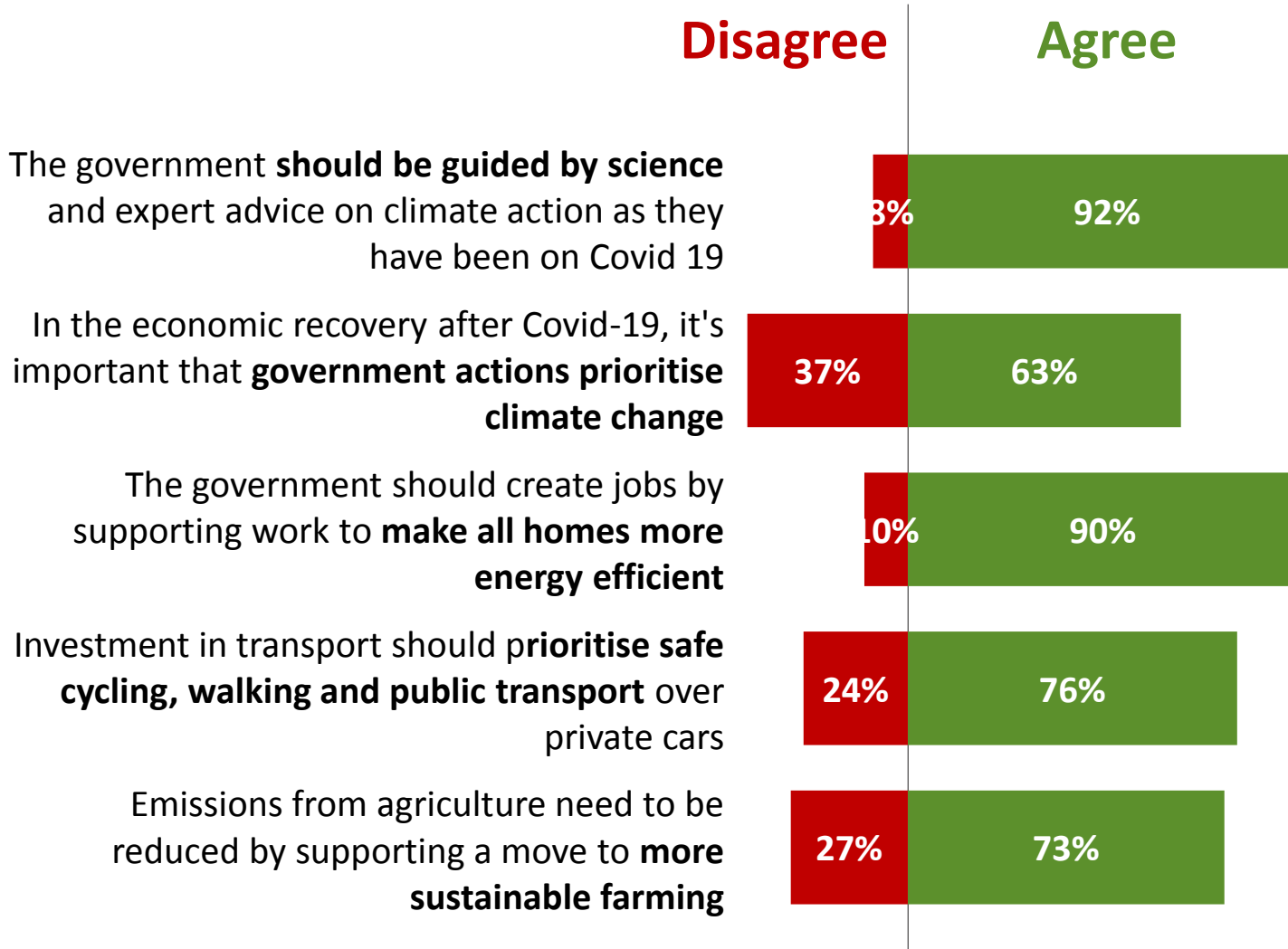


| % Agree x Key Groups |        |             |             |           |      |      |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------|------|
| Male                 | Female | 18-34 Years | 35-54 Years | 55+ Years | ABC1 | C2DE |
| 90%                  | 94%    | 92%         | 91%         | 94%       | 92%  | 92%  |
| 57%                  | 69%    | 68%         | 61%         | 60%       | 63%  | 64%  |
| 89%                  | 90%    | 85%         | 90%         | 95%       | 92%  | 86%  |
| 72%                  | 79%    | 83%         | 73%         | 71%       | 76%  | 75%  |
| 69%                  | 76%    | 76%         | 71%         | 71%       | 73%  | 71%  |

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# % Agree Summary

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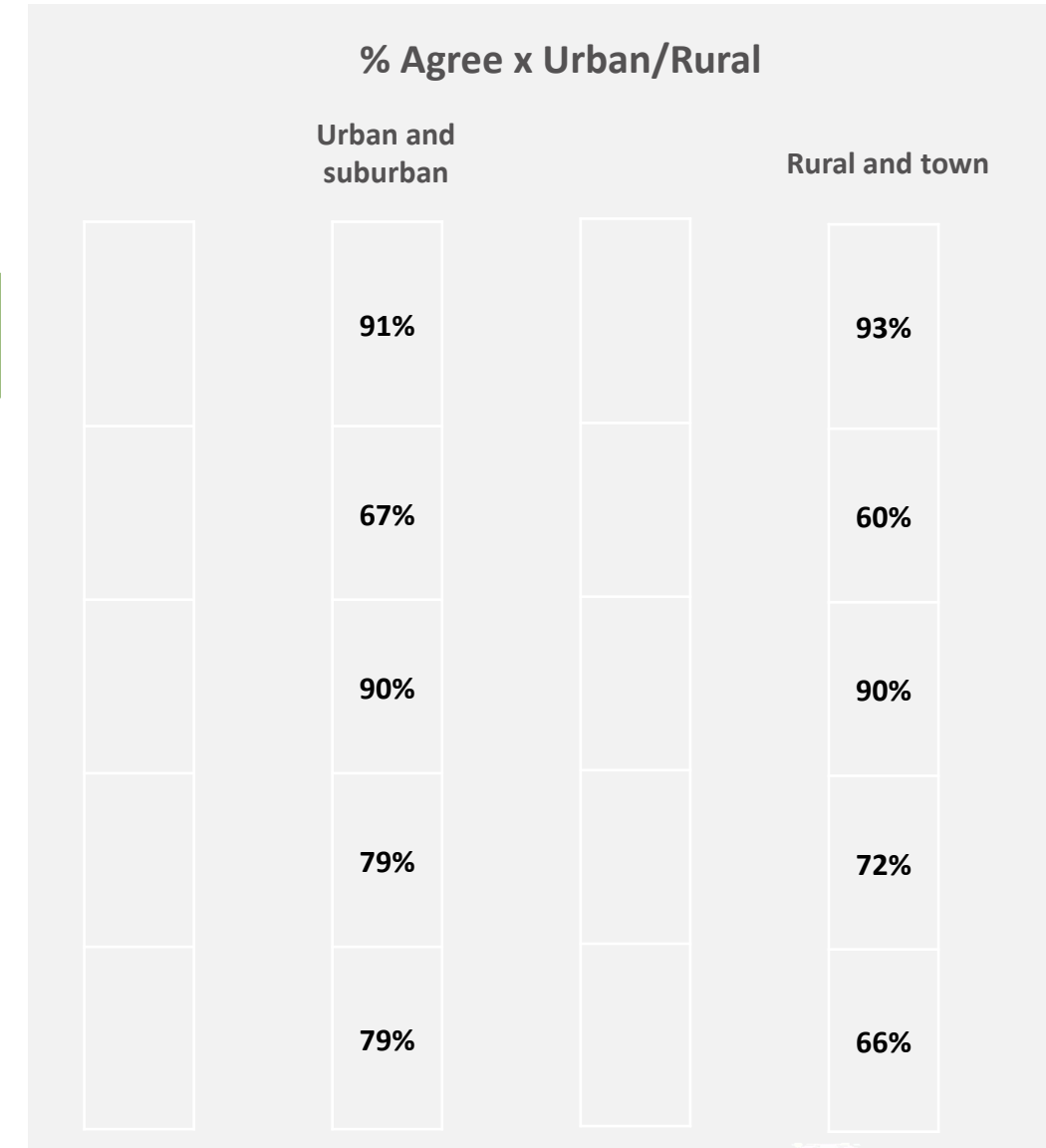
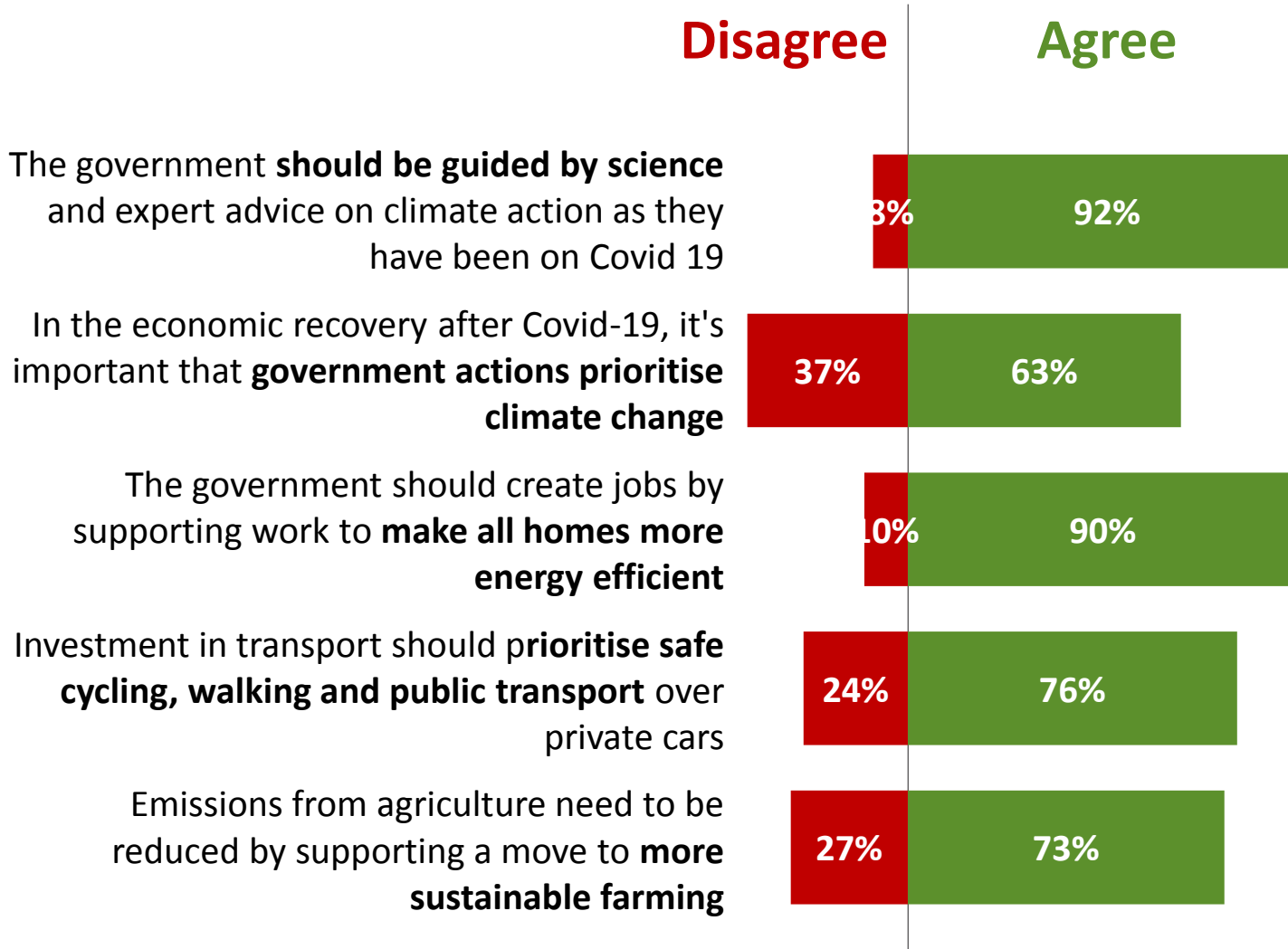
| % Agree x Region  |        |                  |         |             |
|---|--------|------------------|---------|-------------|
|   | Dublin | Rest of Leinster | Munster | Conn/Ulster |
| The government <b>should be guided by science</b> and expert advice on climate action as they have been on Covid 19 | 94%    | 94%              | 90%     | 89%         |
| In the economic recovery after Covid-19, it's important that <b>government actions prioritise climate change</b>    | 67%    | 66%              | 58%     | 61%         |
| The government should create jobs by supporting work to <b>make all homes more energy efficient</b>                 | 91%    | 90%              | 89%     | 88%         |
| Investment in transport should <b>prioritise safe cycling, walking and public transport</b> over private cars       | 80%    | 73%              | 73%     | 76%         |
| Emissions from agriculture need to be reduced by supporting a move to <b>more sustainable farming</b>               | 79%    | 72%              | 70%     | 68%         |

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# % Agree Summary

Base: All Adults, n=1,021



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# Some Key Messages

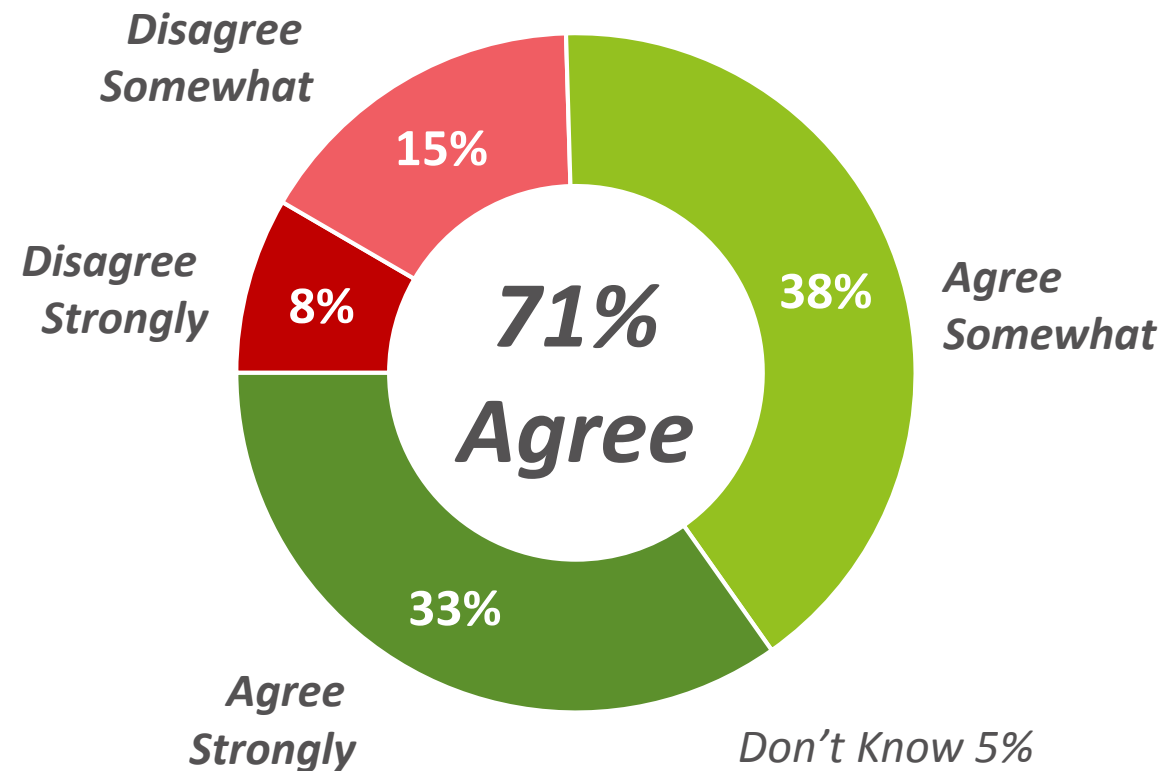
- 9 in 10 believe that our climate change policies should be guided by science and expert advice, as was the case with Covid-19.
- There is near-universal support for government initiatives to support jobs by encouraging home improvements for energy efficiency.
- 3 out of every 4 citizens in Ireland believe that investment in transport should favour safe walking, cycling and public transport ahead of private cars. It hits 80% in Dublin, but is still 72% outside cities and suburbs.
- Even with very difficult economic times ahead, almost two-thirds of adults in Ireland believe that it remains important that the government prioritises action on climate change.
- Two-thirds of people living outside cities and suburbs believe emissions from agriculture need to be reduced by supporting a move to more sustainable farming. Nationally it is three-quarters.



# Government Focus on Climate Change

Base: All Adults, n=1,021

*“Negotiations have commenced on the formation of the next government and the post-Covid recovery plan. If the new government does not act now to combat climate change, it will be failing the people of Ireland”*



| Sex    | % Agree |
|--------|---------|
| Male   | 66%     |
| Female | 77%     |

| SEG  | % Agree |
|------|---------|
| ABC1 | 72%     |
| C2DE | 71%     |

| Region    | % Agree |
|-----------|---------|
| Dublin    | 71%     |
| R.O.L.    | 74%     |
| Munster   | 70%     |
| Conn/Ulst | 70%     |

| Sex   | % Agree |
|-------|---------|
| 18-34 | 76%     |
| 35-54 | 70%     |
| 55+   | 67%     |

7 in 10 Irish citizens feel that a failure to act on climate change is a failure to act in the best interests of the people of Ireland.

This view is held most strongly among those aged under 35, with 76% agreement in that cohort.



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**Thank You!**

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