

REDC

Sage
Advocacy

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October 2023



Irish citizens expect more government involvement in care of older people

Key summary

1

The preference for either one long-term scheme or two separate schemes for home care and nursing home care is similar. However, the older age group leans towards favouring a single unified scheme. Additionally, over two in five Irish citizens believe that care of older people should be funded by the state, with the strongest support coming from those aged 35 to 54.

2

There is a strong preference for having a Commissioner dedicated to improving the rights of older people. Additionally, most people support unified approaches such as a publicly funded online platform for hiring assistance and the right to care assessments.

3

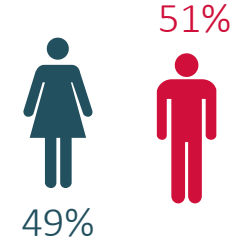
Legislation to safeguard the rights of older people is of paramount importance, and people are calling for increased government action in this regard. There is a widespread consensus that the care sector for older people is predominantly controlled by private entities, and people desire greater government support for this sector.

RED Line Methodology

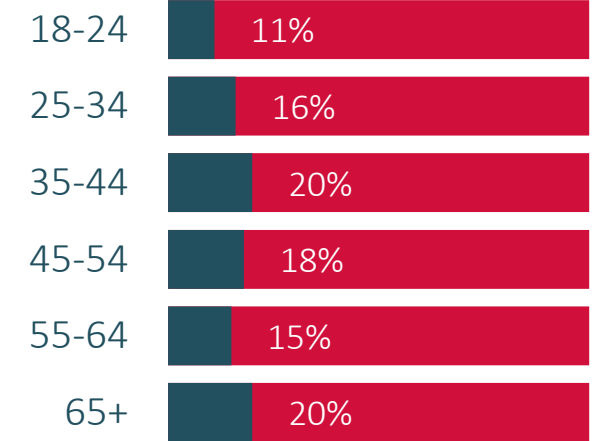
- Research was conducted using RED C's online omnibus, the RED Line.
- Through an online panel of over 45,000 members, RED Line allows us to reach a representative sample of the adult population 18+ across Ireland in a cost effective and timely manner.
- Quota controls are used to ensure a nationally representative sample of ROI adults aged 18+, with interlocking quotas to provide extra confidence in sample profile.
- Data was weighted across gender, age, region and social class so as to ensure a nationally representative sample based on latest CSO projections.
- n=1,019 respondents took part, with fieldwork taking place from the 8th – 12th September 2023.



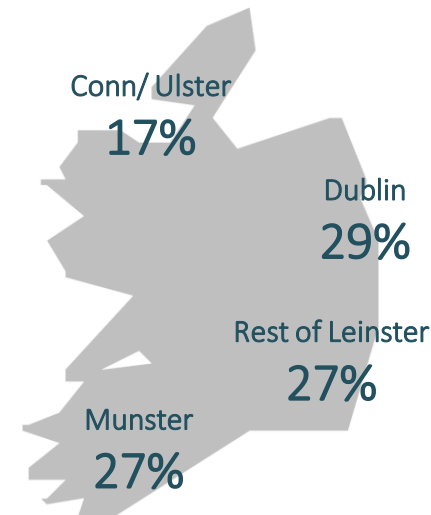
Gender



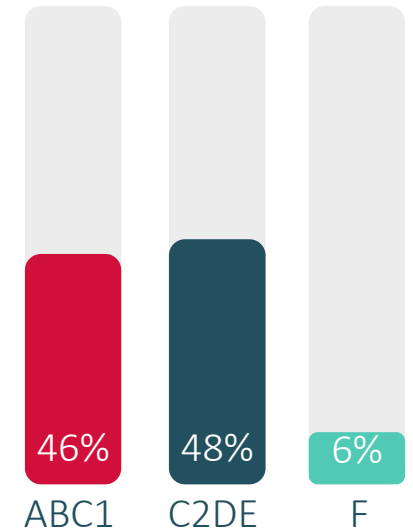
Age



Region



Social Class

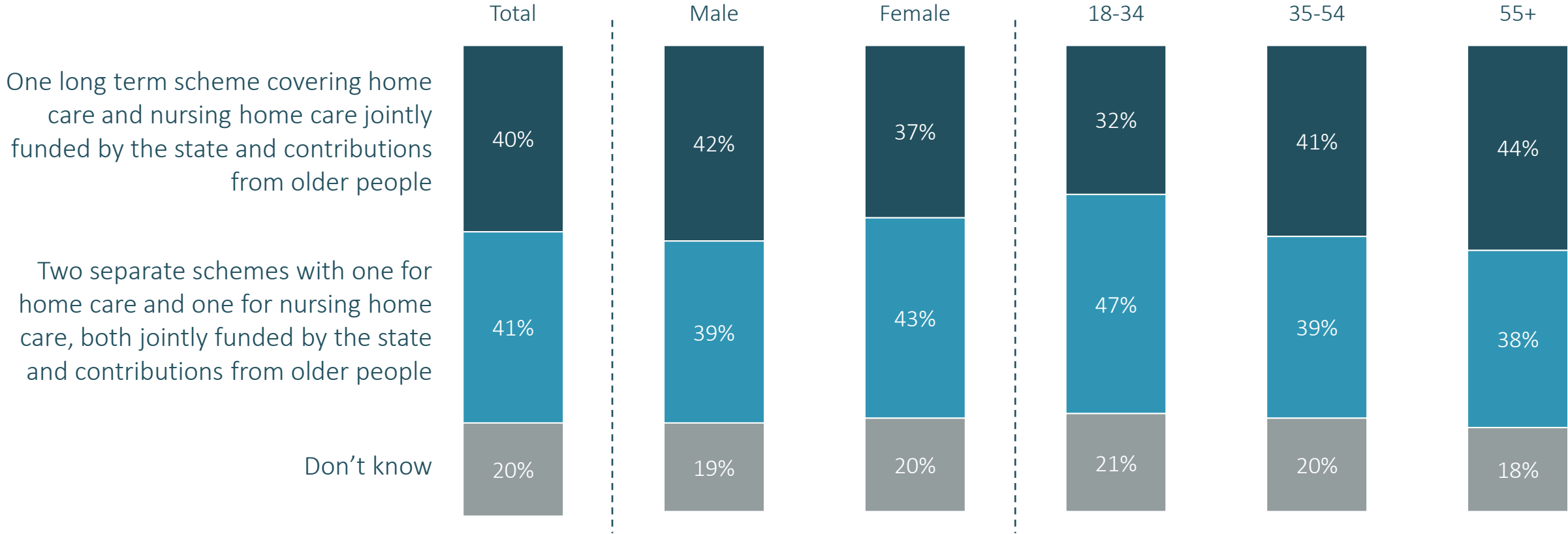


With age, the preference for a long-term unified scheme grows



Roughly half of individuals between the ages of 18 and 34 believe that having two distinct plans for home care and nursing home care is a more favourable concept.

What provision should be in place for long-term care?

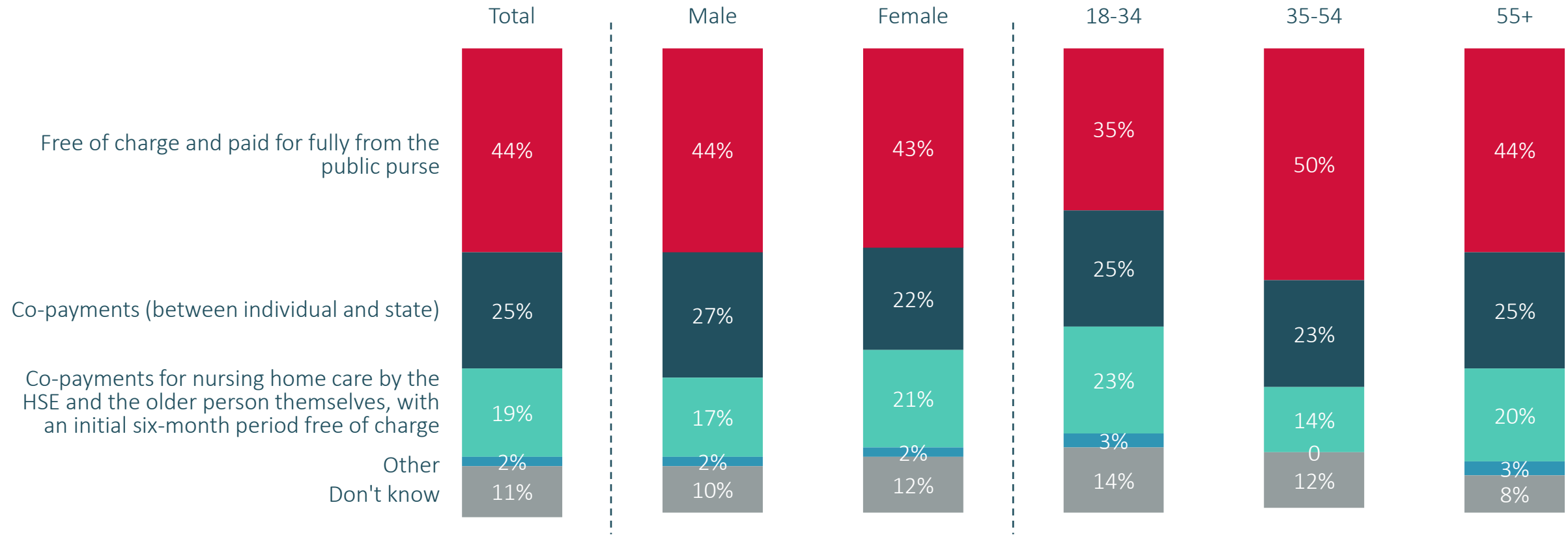


Q1. Taking long-term care for older people to mean both care and support provided in the community as well as care provided in nursing homes, what provision should be in place?
Base: All adults 18+ (n=1,019)

Over 2 in 5 advocate for publicly funded long-term care for older people

The mid-age group holds an even firmer belief in this notion, while the younger cohort tends to emphasize that both the HSE and individuals should contribute to care costs.

How long-term care should be paid for?

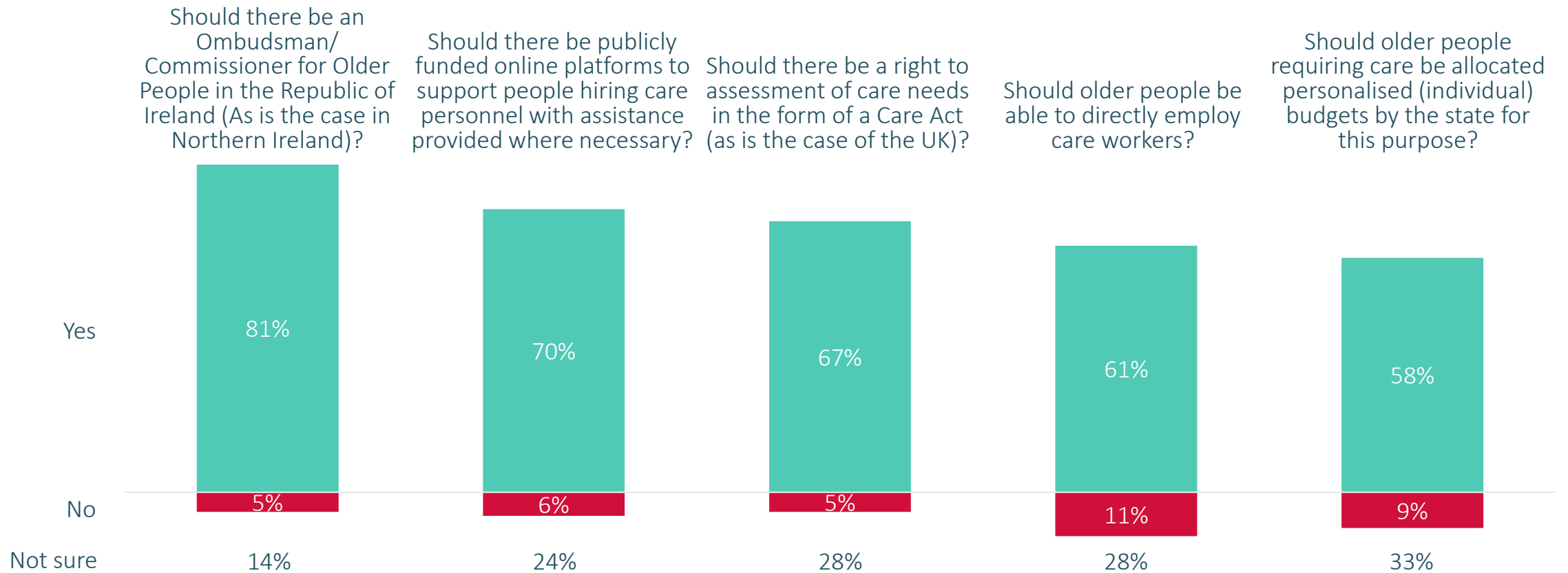


Q2. How do you think long-term care, for older people, should be paid for?
Base: All adults 18+ (n=1,019)

Vast majority support an Ombudsman for older people

They also endorse the concept of a publicly funded online platform to assist with hiring and the right to assessments of care needs. Most also believe older people should be able to directly employ care workers, and that care seekers should be allocated budgets by the state for this purpose.

Views on hiring carers - Summary

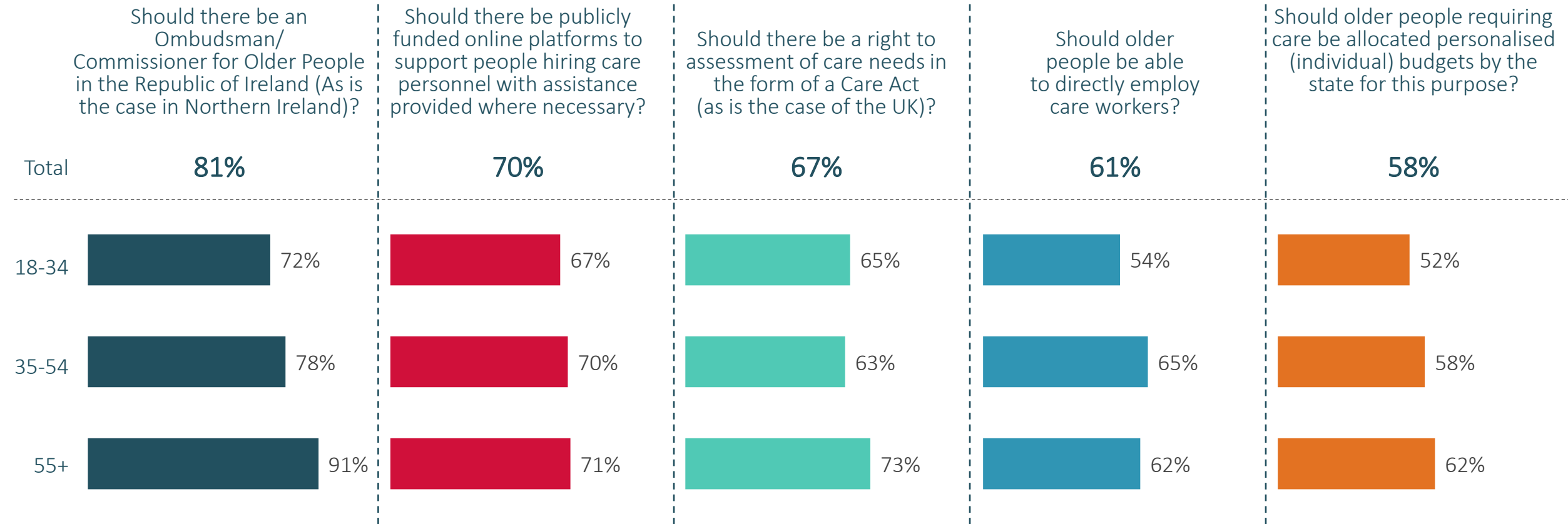


Q3. Please let us know if you think the following should be the case or not
 Base: All adults 18+ (n=1,019)

Older age cohorts are more likely to support all possible care needs

Those in younger age cohorts, in the main, are more likely however to have no opinion, rather than not be supportive

Views on hiring carers X age - NET Yes



Q3. Please let us know if you think the following should be the case or not
Base: All adults 18+ (n=1,019)

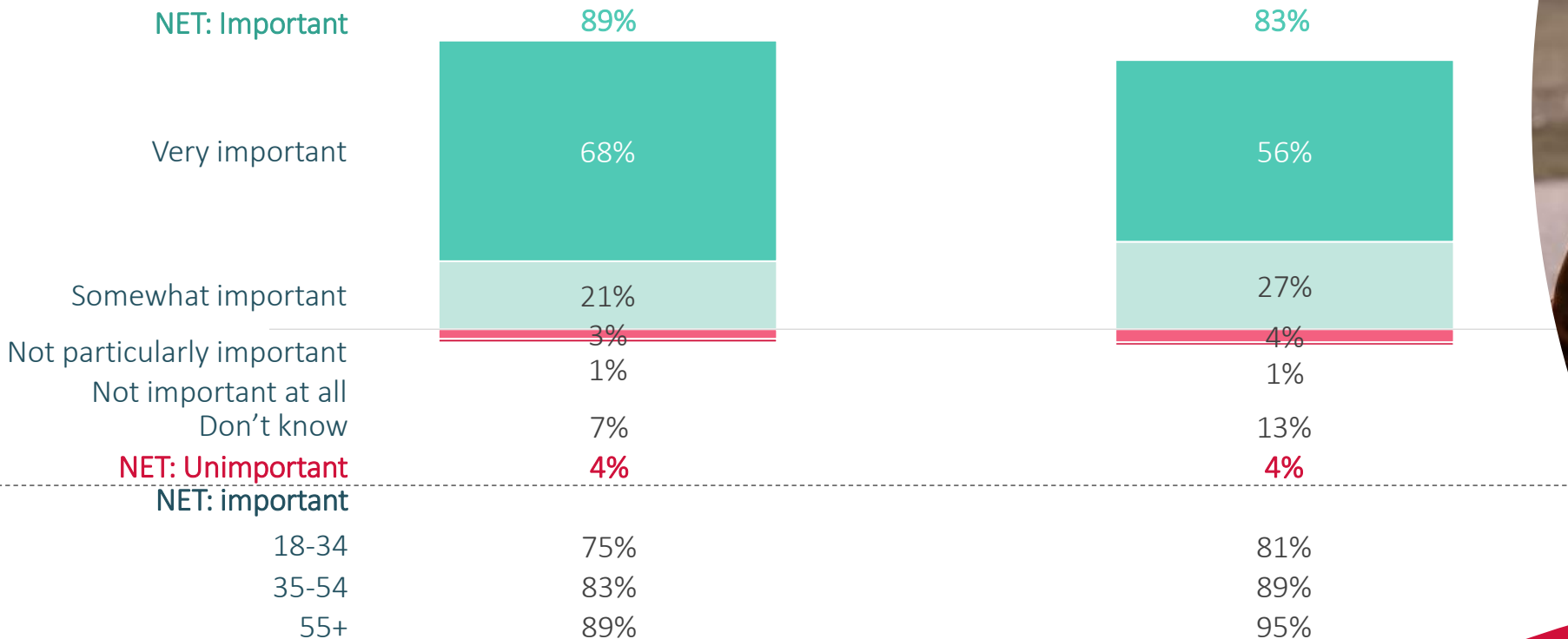
Most consider legislation for older people's rights vital

This is even more pronounced among the older group.

Perceived importance of legislation to protect older people

Legislation to protect the liberty of older people to have normal freedom of movement (exc. in v ltd circumstances) & not be forced against their will to live in a place that they do not choose

A legislative entitlement for people to have access to an independent advocate in Ireland as in the UK



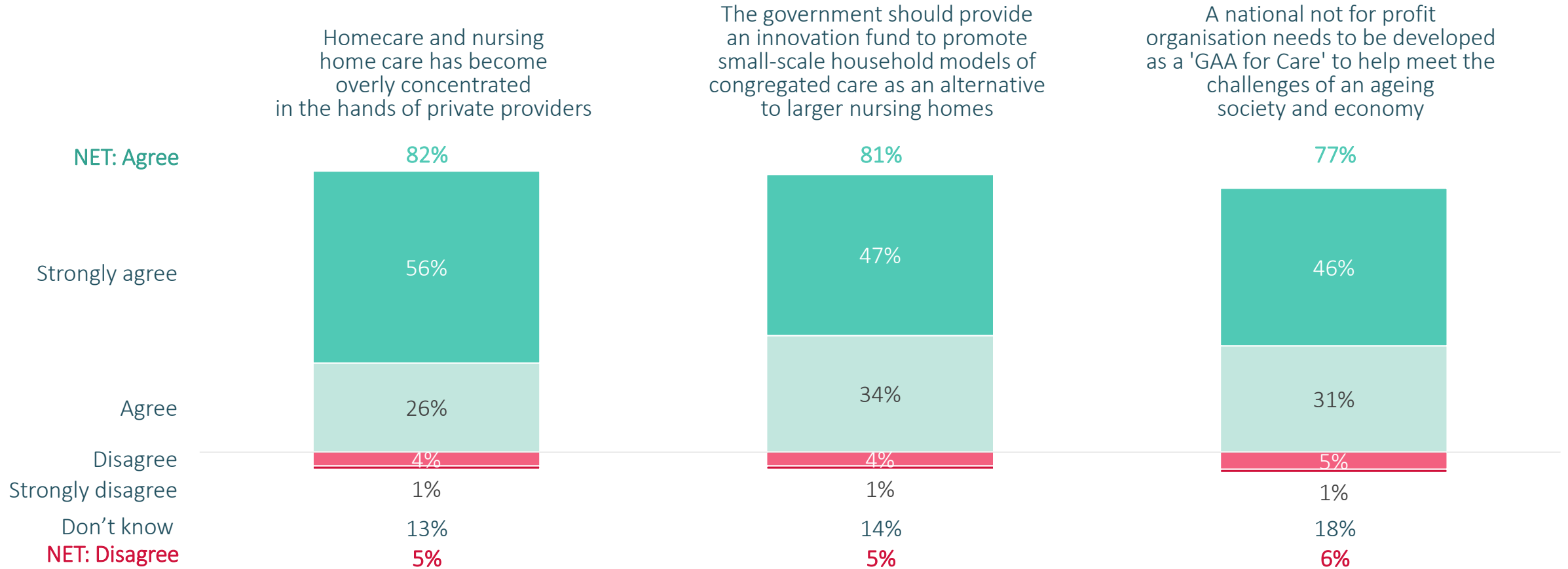
Q4. Please tell us how important, or not, you believe the following are
Base: All adults 18+ (n=1,019)

Over 4 in 5 believe private providers dominate nursing home care



This drives the necessity for creating smaller-scale household models of congregated care and nonprofit organizations to meet the ageing society challenge.

Views on state of nursing and homecare in society - Summary

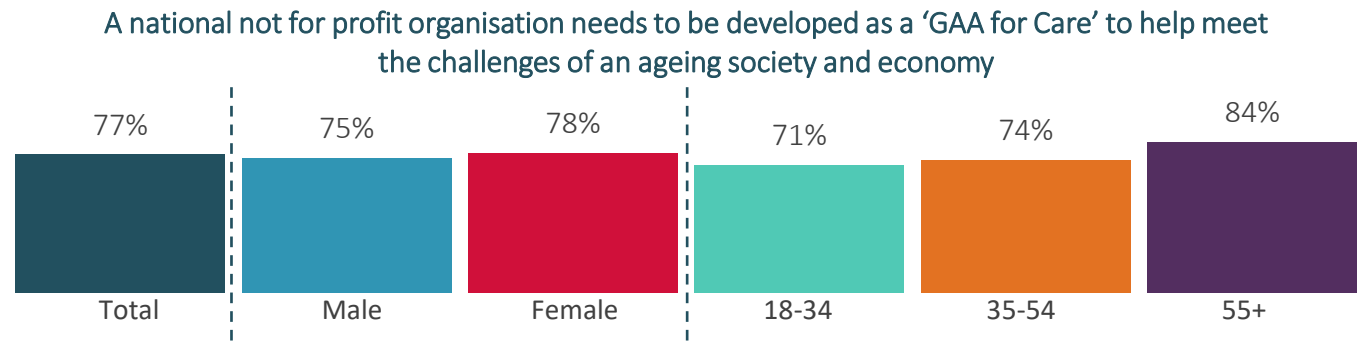
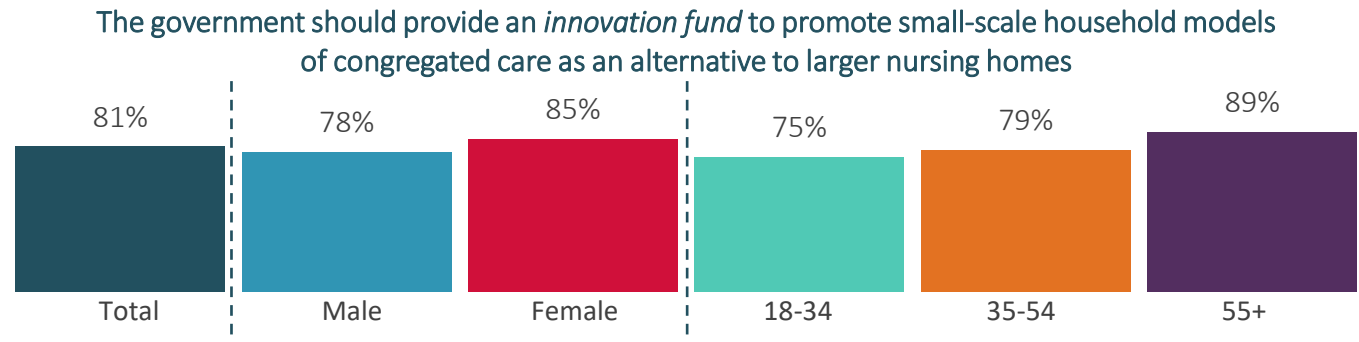
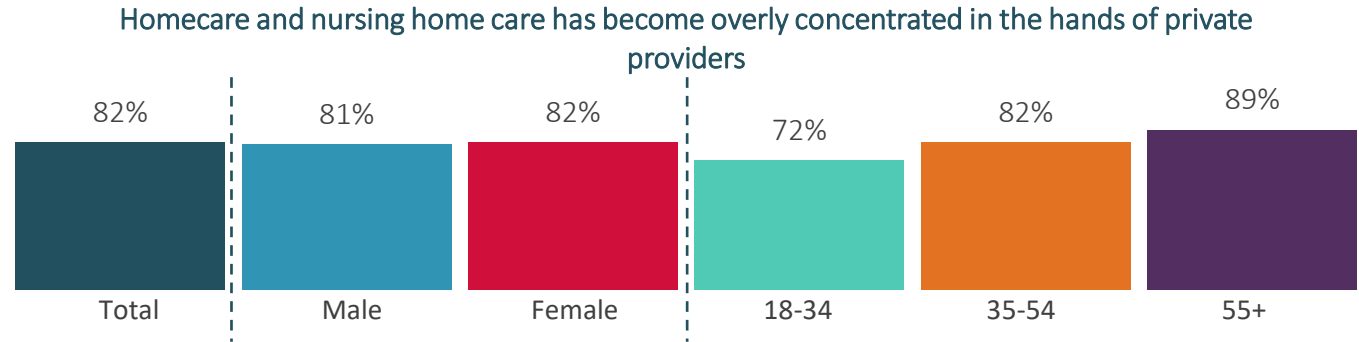


Q5. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements
Base: All adults 18+ (n=1,019)



While the need for improvement is significant across all age groups, individuals tend to express higher agreement with taking steps to enhance care for older people in Ireland as their age increases

Views on state of nursing and homecare in society X demographics - NET Agree



Q5. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements
Base: All adults 18+ (n=1,019)

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