



Special Eurobarometer 490

Climate Change

Ireland April 2019

# 1. COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Three quarters of respondents in Ireland see climate change as a 'very serious' problem (75%, just below the EU average of 79%), a significant increase of seven percentage points (pp) since the previous survey in 2017. More than one quarter think that it is the most serious problem facing the world (26%, above the EU average of 23%), an increase of 13 pp since 2017.

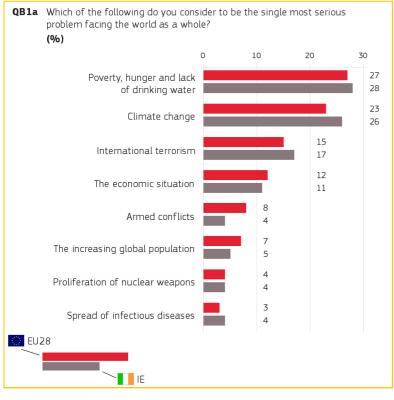
More than six in ten of those surveyed say they have personally taken action to fight climate change in the past six months (62% vs the EU average of 60%), a substantial increase of 12 pp since 2017. When given specific examples of climate actions, the proportion rises to 96% (vs the EU average of 93%).

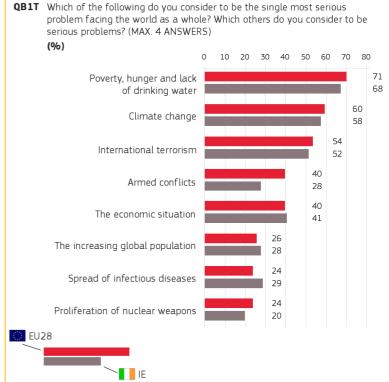
• The most frequently cited action is trying to reduce waste and regularly separating it for recycling (70% vs the EU average of 75%). Moreover, the proportion who regularly use environmentally-friendly alternatives to their private car has increased by 13 pp to 36% (just under the EU average of 37%).

Those surveyed in Ireland are much more likely to agree that adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change can have positive outcomes for citizens (88% vs the EU average of 70%), reducing fossil fuel imports can increase energy security and benefit the EU economically (84% vs EU average of 72%), and that more public financial support should be given to the transition to clean energies (90% vs the EU average of 84%, a two pp increase since 2017).

Nearly all respondents think it is important that their government sets targets to increase the use renewable energy by 2030 (95%, just above the EU average of 92%), and should provide support for improving energy efficiency by 2030 (93%, as opposed to the EU average of 89%). Most importantly, 92% of respondents (equal to the EU average) support the aim of a climate-neutral EU by 2050.

### 2. EUROPEAN PERCEPTIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE 1/2









Methodology: face-to-face

EU28 Outer pie

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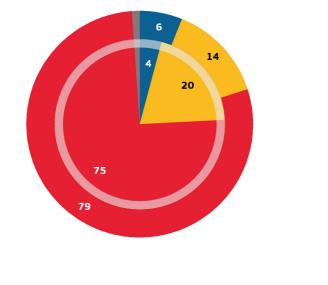
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**QB2** And how serious a problem do you think climate change is at this moment? Please use a scale from 1 to 10, with '1' meaning it is "not at all a serious problem" and '10' meaning it is "an extremely serious problem".

3. EUROPEAN PERCEPTIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE 2/2

(%)

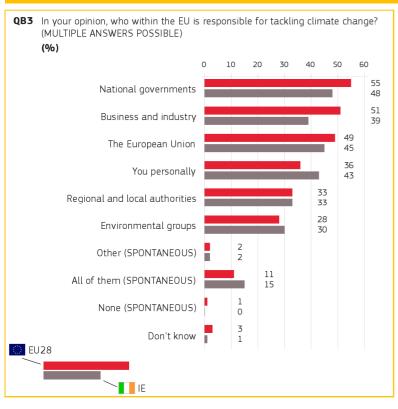


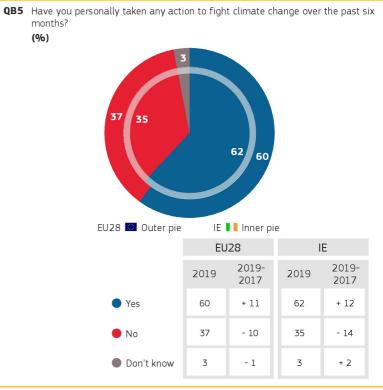
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## 4. TAKING ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE 1/2









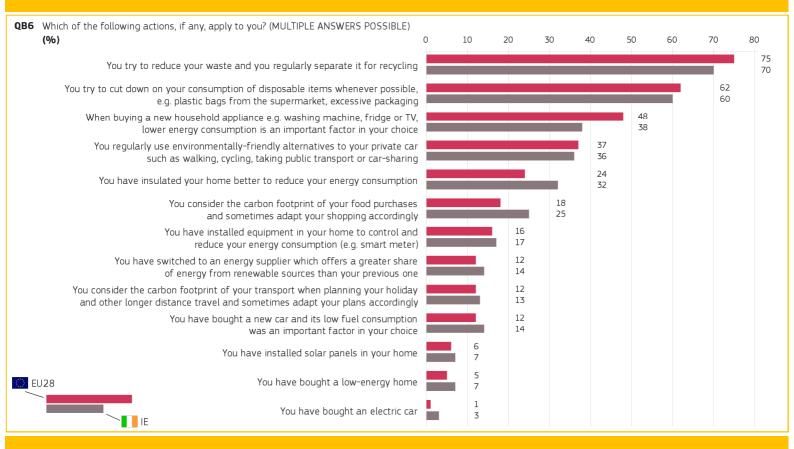
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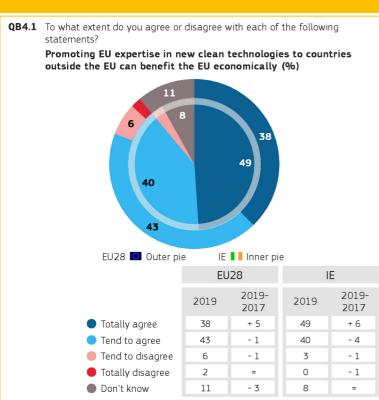
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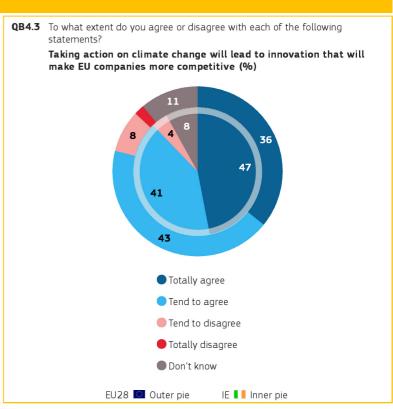
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# 5. TAKING ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE 2/2



### 6. ATTITUDES TO FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE









1.067 interviews 09 > 23 / 04 / 2019

Methodology: face-to-face

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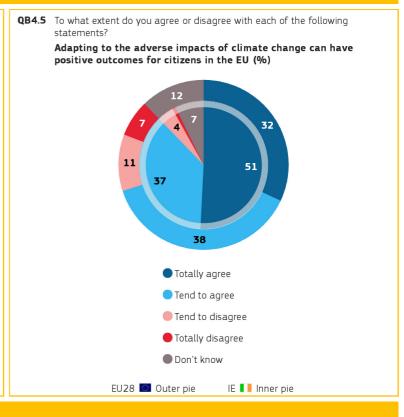
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## 7. ATTITUDES TOWARDS TRANSITION TO CLEAN ENERGIES AND ADAPTING TO THE ADVERSE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

QB4.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following

More public financial support should be given to the transition to clean energies even if it means subsidies to fossil fuels should be reduced (%)





### 8. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

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1

6

QB7 How important do you think it is that the (NATIONALITY) government sets ambitious targets to increase the amount of renewable energy used, such as wind or solar power, by 2030?

2

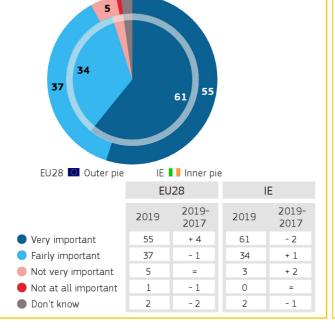
- 5

Tend to disagree

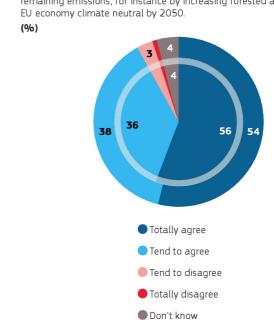
Totally disagree

Don't know

(%)



QB9 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: We should reduce greenhouse gas emissions to a minimum while offsetting the remaining emissions, for instance by increasing forested areas, to make the



EU28 Outer pie

IE Inner pie