

REDC

**Safeguarding
IRELAND**

Promoting the rights of vulnerable adults

Awareness of Advance Healthcare Directives

Results from a nat-rep survey of adults aged 18+ living in Ireland

May 2024

Ref: 726224

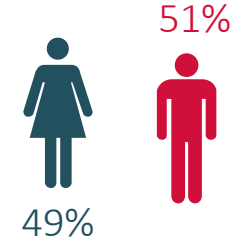


RED Line Methodology

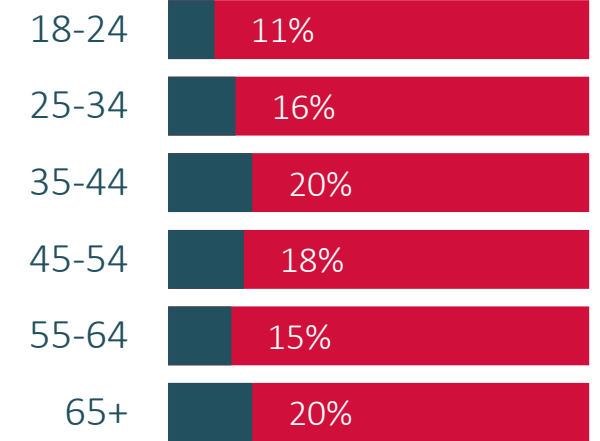
- Online research was conducted with n=1,003 ROI adults aged 18+. Respondents were recruited using RED C Live, RED C's own online panel of over 40,000 members.
- Quota controls were used to ensure a nationally representative sample of ROI adults aged 18+, with interlocking quotas to provide extra confidence 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.
- Fieldwork for this research took place between 2nd and 7th May 2024. Respondents were asked about their awareness of Advance Healthcare Directives (AHDs).



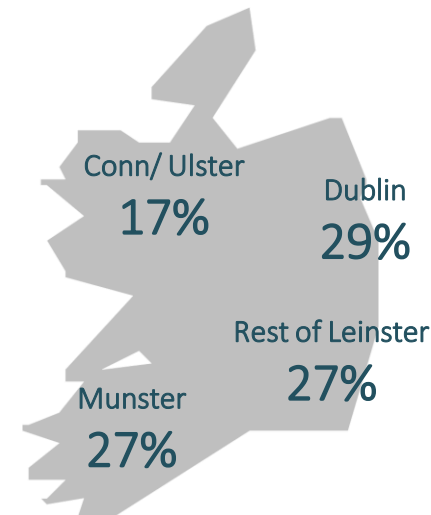
Gender



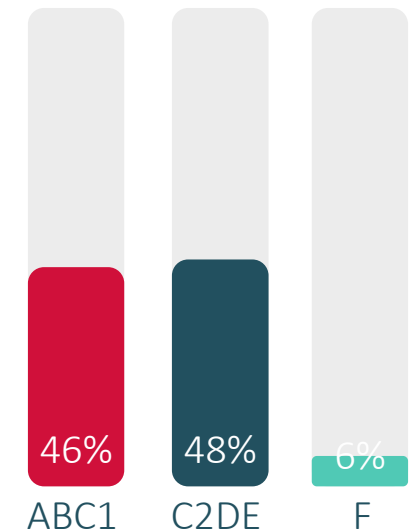
Age



Region



Social Class



Key findings from the research



Modest levels of awareness of AHDs

Just under one-in-four (23%) people said that they were aware of Advance Healthcare Directives



Few people actually have an AHD

4% of the total population (16% of those aware of AHDs) have an Advance Healthcare Directive



Not thinking about it main reason for not having AHD

32% of those aware of AHDs and that don't have one said not just not thinking about it was the main reason for not having an AHD



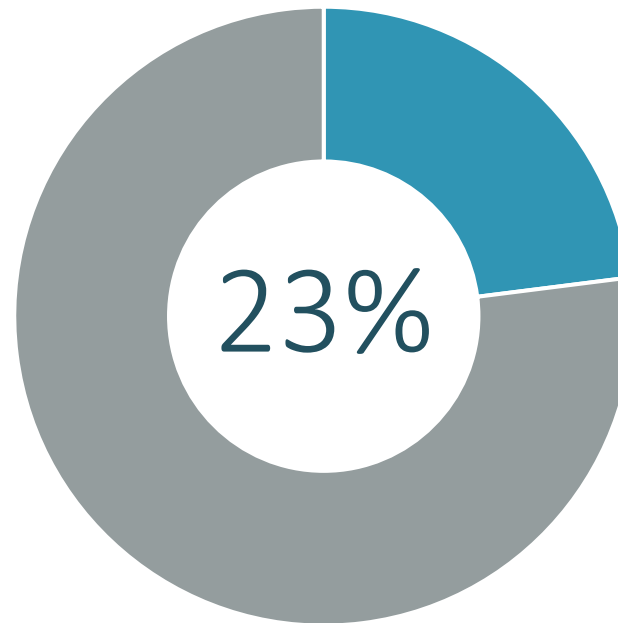
Almost one-in-four say they are aware of Advance Healthcare Directives

Awareness is higher amongst older age groups (especially 45-54), higher social grades (AB and C1), those that are widowed / divorced / separate, those living in Dublin and Munster, and those living in urban areas.

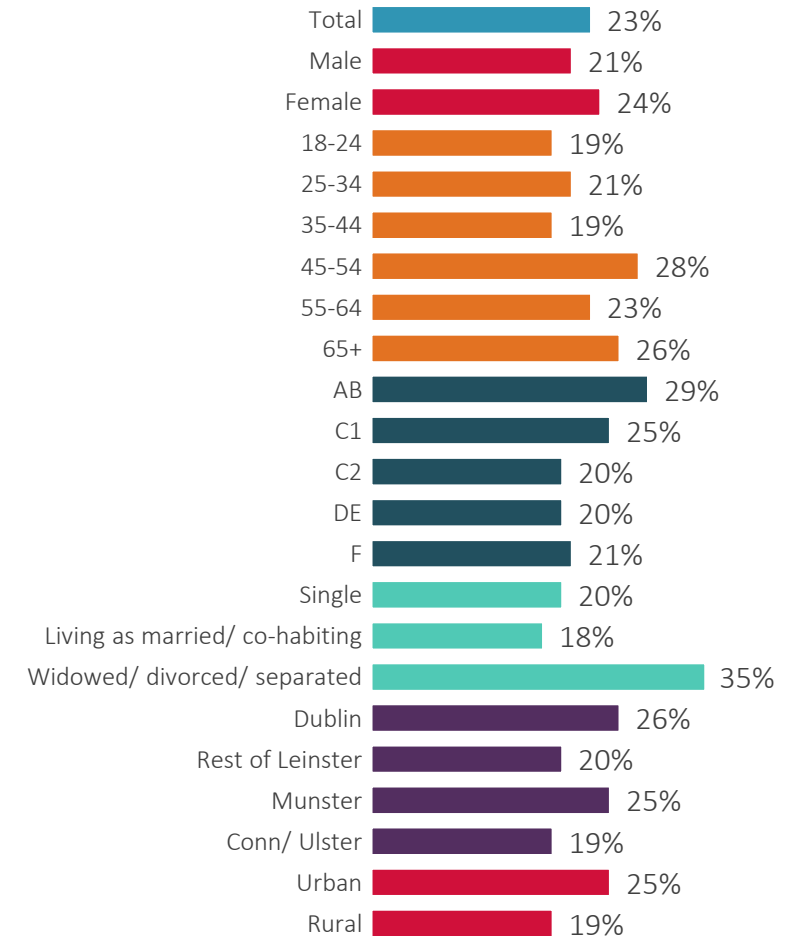
Awareness of Advance Healthcare Directives

TEXT SHOWN TO RESPONDENTS: "An Advance Healthcare Directive is a specific document, which has legal standing, in which to record future healthcare wishes and preferences including: refusals and requests on treatment approaches, surgery, medicines and resuscitation."

I had heard of an Advance Healthcare Directive before today



Awareness of AHDs by key demographics



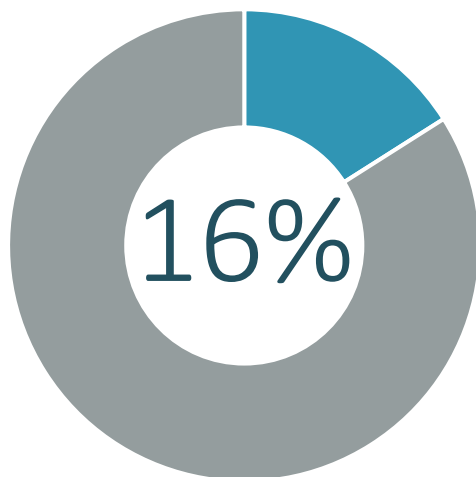
Around one-in-six aware of AHDs actually have one



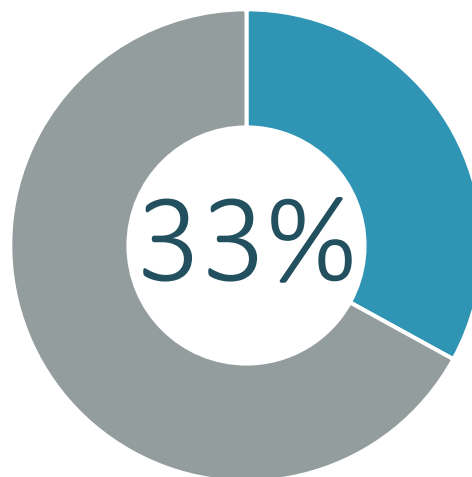
This is equivalent to 1-in-25 people (4%) in the total population having an AHD. Even amongst those aware of AHDs, just one-in-three knew how to get and few had ever been asked about one by a healthcare professional.

Experience of AHDs amongst those aware of them % of those aware of AHDs

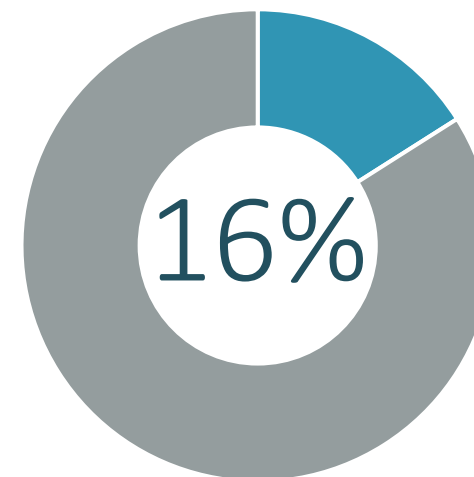
I have an Advance Healthcare Directive



I know what I need to do to get an Advance Healthcare Directive



A healthcare professional (e.g your local GP, doctor, nurse) has asked me if I have an Advance Healthcare Directive

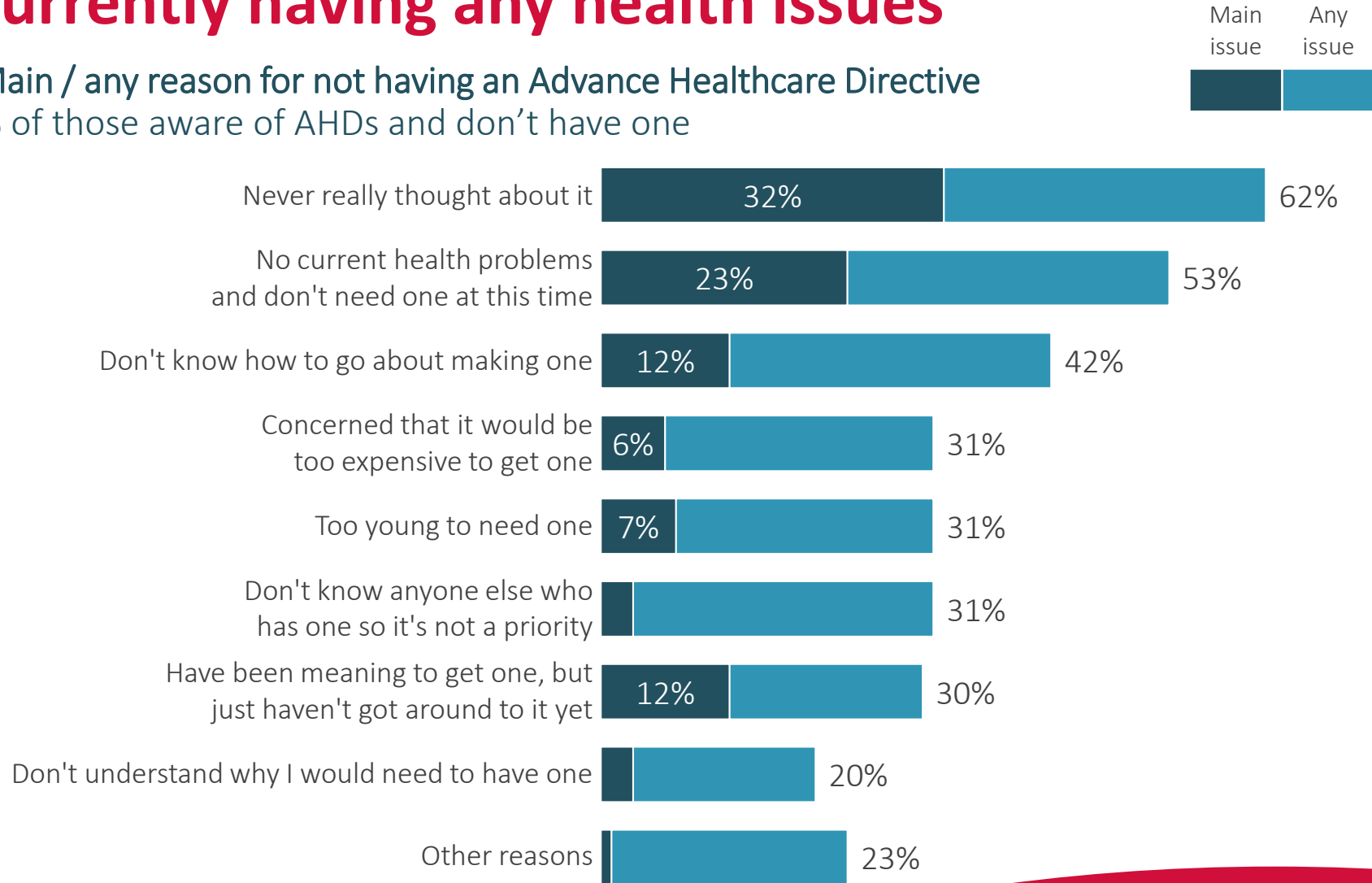


4% of the total population aged 18+ living in ROI have an Advance Healthcare Directive



Most common reasons for not having an AHD are just not having thought about it or not currently having any health issues

Main / any reason for not having an Advance Healthcare Directive
% of those aware of AHDs and don't have one



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