



Palliative Care Research Study NI (July 2020 Version 1.2)



All Ireland Institute of
Hospice and Palliative Care



Palliative Care Research Study - NI

QUESTIONS



Questions



Q1. Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care:

- I know how palliative care could help me or someone important to me
- Palliative care should be considered as early as possible when diagnosed with any life-limiting illness
- Palliative care is only for people with advanced cancer
- If a person is receiving palliative care, they must give up their other treatments
- I am comfortable to think or talk about palliative care
- I would feel confident to discuss palliative care with a hospital consultant, GP, community nurse or other health and social care professional
- I would like to be supported to discuss and write down my wishes and preferences for care at the end of life
- Palliative care is a last resort

Q2. In terms of Covid-19, how has it affected your thoughts on palliative care?

- The COVID-19 pandemic has made me more reluctant to think/talk about palliative care than before: **Yes/No**
- The COVID-19 pandemic has made me think more about death and dying than before: **Yes/No**
- The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the importance of discussing my wishes and preferences for care at the end of life: **Yes/No**
- The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the importance of discussing palliative care if I or someone important to me has a life-limiting illness: **Yes/No**
- COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic infection control measures have changed the delivery of palliative care: **Yes/No/Don't know**



Palliative Care Research Study - NI

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



OVERVIEW

iReach Insights conducted this research on behalf of the All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care (AIHCP), tracking the thoughts of palliative care in NI. The research was conducted in NI and received 500 responses. The research report provides insights into how comfortable adults in NI are with discussing palliative care and how much of an impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on their thoughts of palliative care.

KEY POINTS

- Benefit of Palliative Care**
 - Almost 2 in 3 (65%) adults agree that palliative care could help themselves or a loved one.
 - This figure was slightly higher among adults aged 55+ with 72% in this group agreeing or strongly agreeing that palliative care could help themselves or a loved one.
- Discussing Palliative Care**
 - 61% agree that they feel comfortable talking about palliative care.
 - 70% of NI respondents agree (agree + strongly agree) that they feel confident to discuss palliative care with a hospital consultant, GP, community nurse or other health and social care professionals.
- COVID-19 & the topic of death**
 - 64% of adults have been thinking more about death and dying than before, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The figure is slightly higher among younger adults, aged 18-34, with 70% of them thinking about this subject more.
- COVID-19 & Palliative Care**
 - 64% of respondents stated that the pandemic has increased the importance of discussing palliative care if they, or someone important to them has a life-limiting illness



Palliative Care Research Study - NI

METHODOLOGY



Palliative Care Research Study 2020

Nationwide Study in Northern Ireland and run as a Standalone Survey of Adults in NI



Consumer Research Project

Conducted by iReach Insights for All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care (AIHCP).

iReach Consumer Omnibus Survey

Fieldwork undertaken from 15th to 17th of July 2020

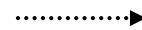


Mi Pro Survey Software

iReach utilises leading market research solution for all aspects of survey project management: sampling, design, data collection, and tabulation

Consumer Decisions Research Panel

Consumer Research Study conducted nationwide
Sample Size = 500 Respondents



iReach Consumer Decisions Panel

iReach uses proprietary research panels across consumer and business groups, built on a nationally representative model

Confidence Level

The iReach Consumer Decisions Omnibus delivers a high level statistical accuracy. Delivering a sample size of over 500 interviews, this provides a confidence level of + or – 3.5% at a 95% confidence interval.



Palliative Care Research Study - NI

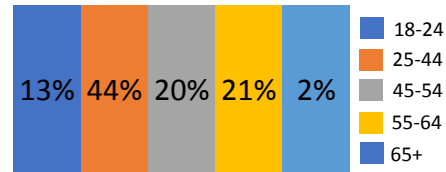
DEMOGRAPHICS



Gender



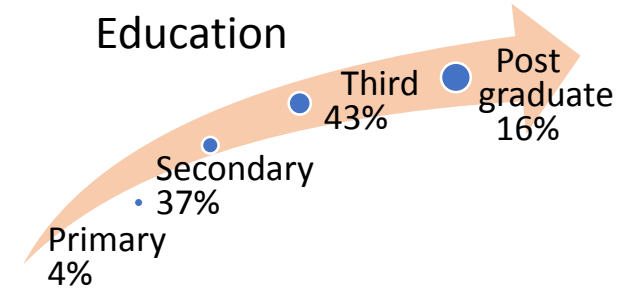
Age of respondents



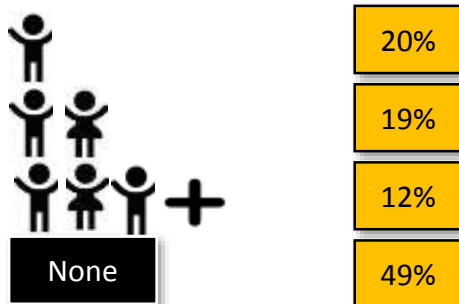
Marital Status

Single/Never Married	38%
Married/Cohabiting	50%
Separated/Divorced/Widowed	11%
Prefer not to say	1%

Education



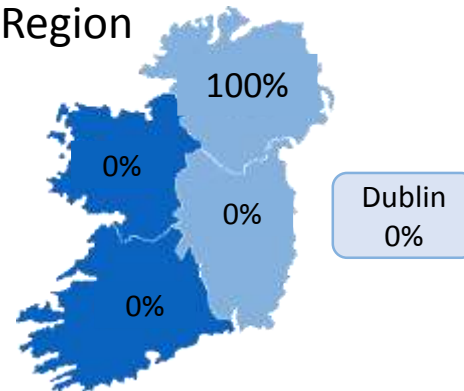
Children at Home



Household Income

< €19,999	29%
€20K - €39,999	36%
€40K - €59,999	17%
€60K - €79,999	7%
€80K+	6%
Prefer not to say	4%
Don't know	1%

Region



Occupation

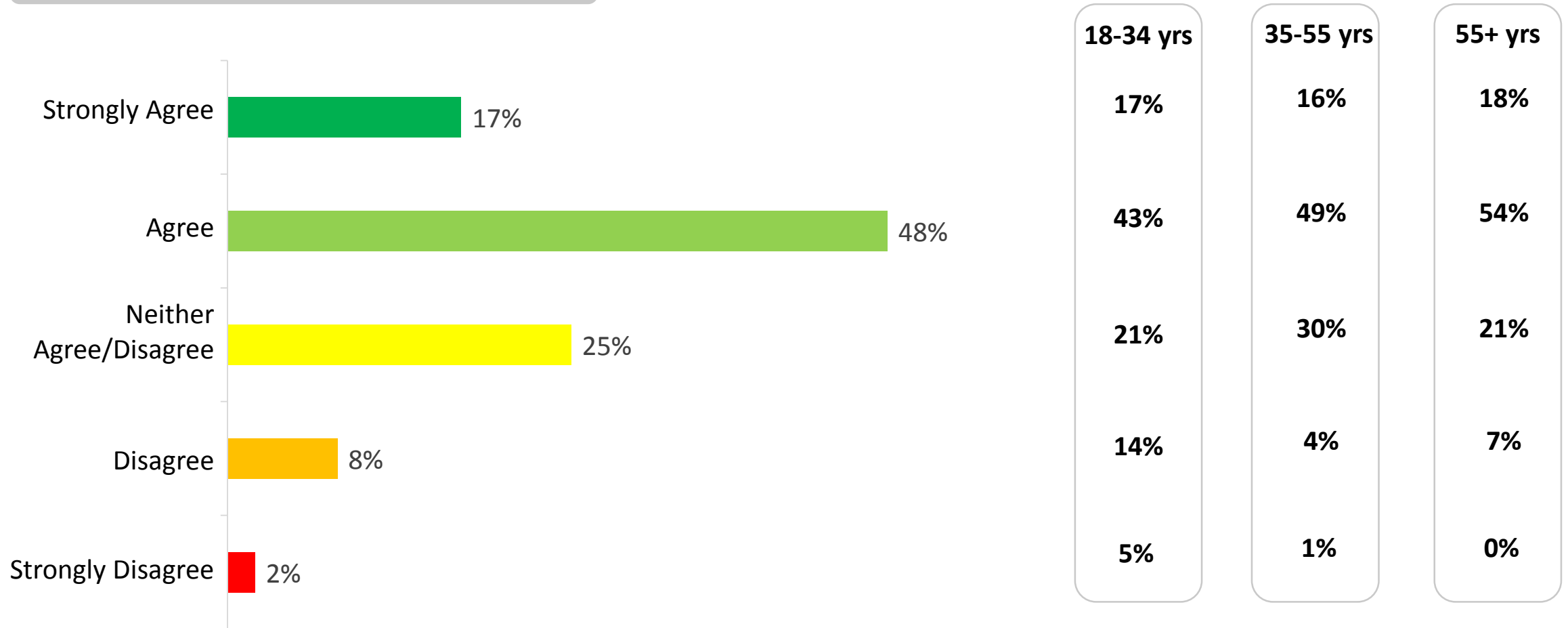
High managerial, admin, professional	5%
Intermediate managerial, admin, professional	15%
Supervisor, Jr managerial, admin, professional	27%
Manual worker (skilled, non-skilled)	19%
Self Employed	2%
Casual Worker – Not Permanent Employment	2%
Homemaker	6%
Unemployed	10%
Student	8%
Retired (on state, private pension)	4%
Full Time Carer	2%

Palliative Care: NI



Almost 2 in 3 (65%) adults agree (agree + strongly agree) that palliative care could help themselves or a loved one. This figure was particularly higher amongst those aged 55+, with 72% agreeing with the statement.

Palliative care could help me or loved one

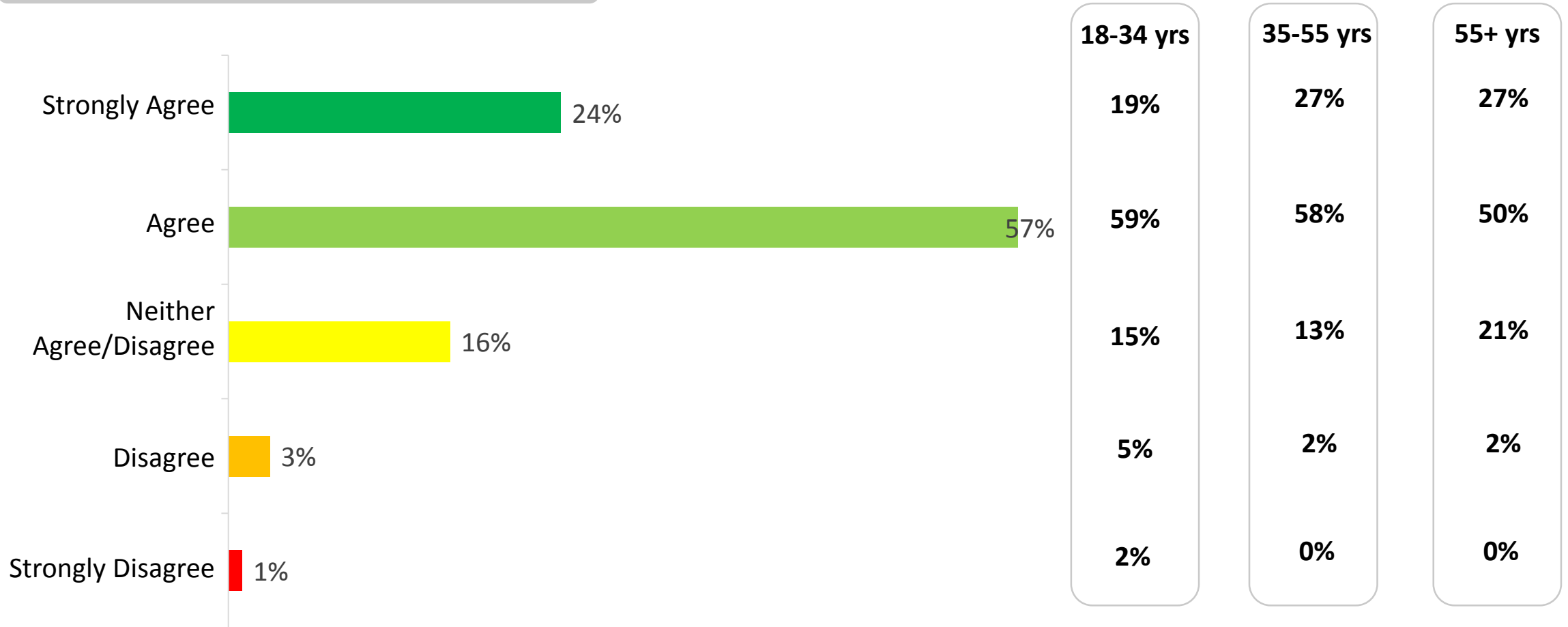


Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: I know how palliative care could help me or someone important to me: (Single Grid n=500)



81% agree (agree + strongly agree) palliative care should be considered as early as possible when diagnosed with any life- limiting illness. Those who are aged 55+ agreed particularly with 27% strongly agreeing and a further 50% agreeing with the statement.

Palliative care considered when diagnosed

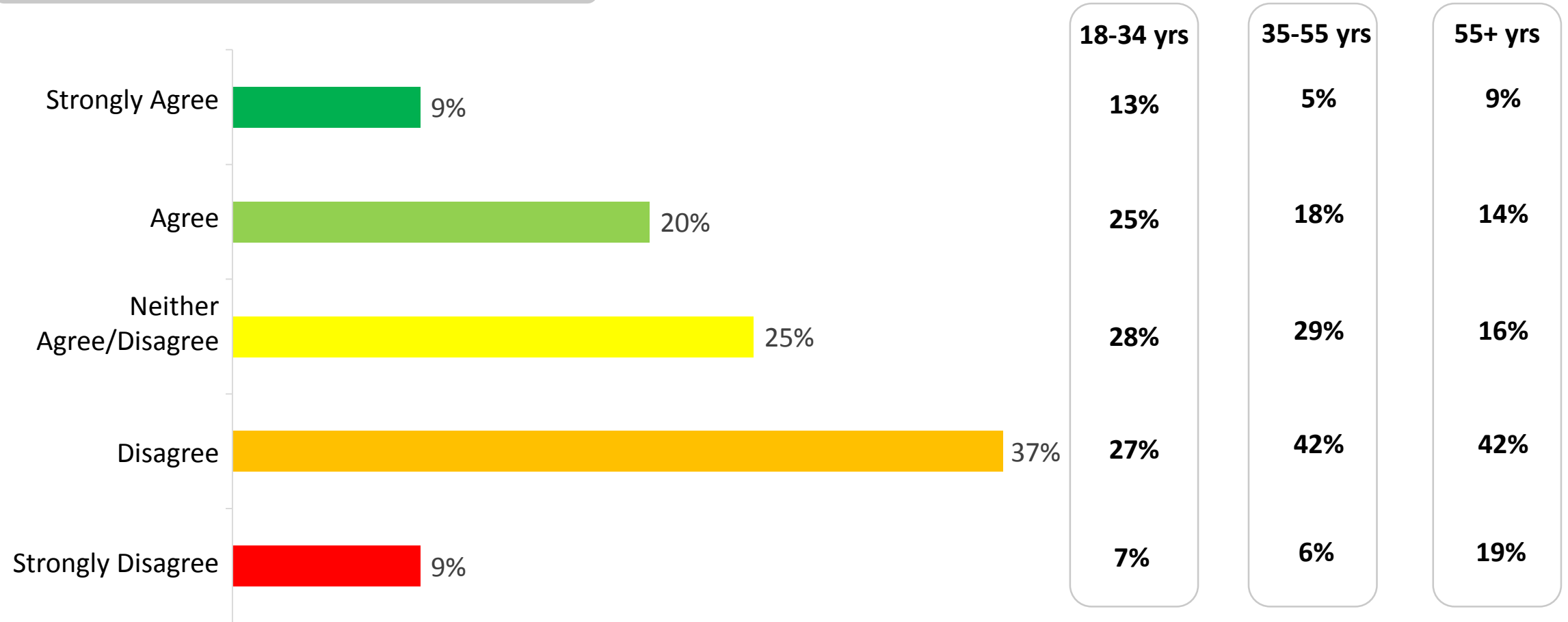


Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: Palliative care should be considered as early as possible when diagnosed with any life-limiting illness: (Single Grid n=500)



Almost half (46%) of NI respondents disagree (disagree + strongly disagree) that palliative care is **only** for people with advanced cancer. 9% of people strongly disagree with this, which again, is slightly higher amongst those aged 55+ (19%).

Palliative care and advanced cancer

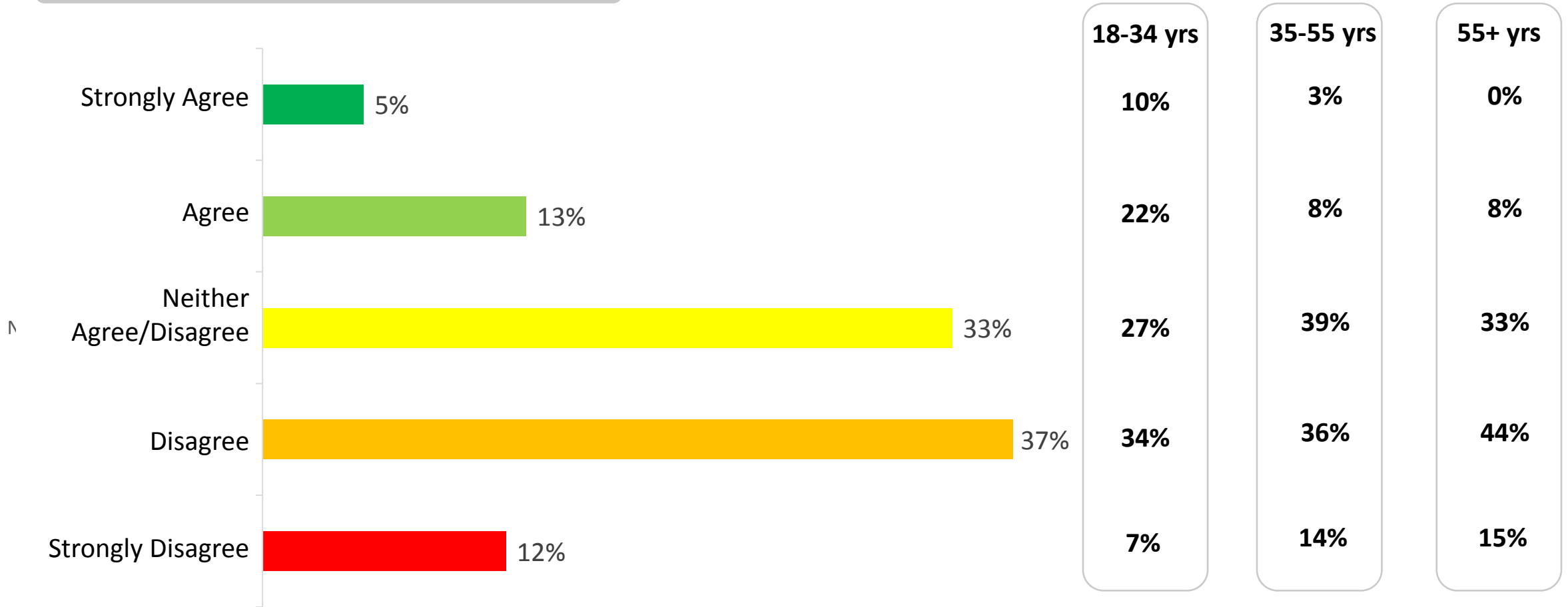


Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: Palliative care is only for people with advanced cancer (Single Grid n=500)



Almost half (49%) of NI respondents disagree (disagree + strongly disagree) that people receiving palliative care must give up their other treatments. 59% of those aged 55+ either disagree or strongly disagree with the statement.

Palliative care and other treatments

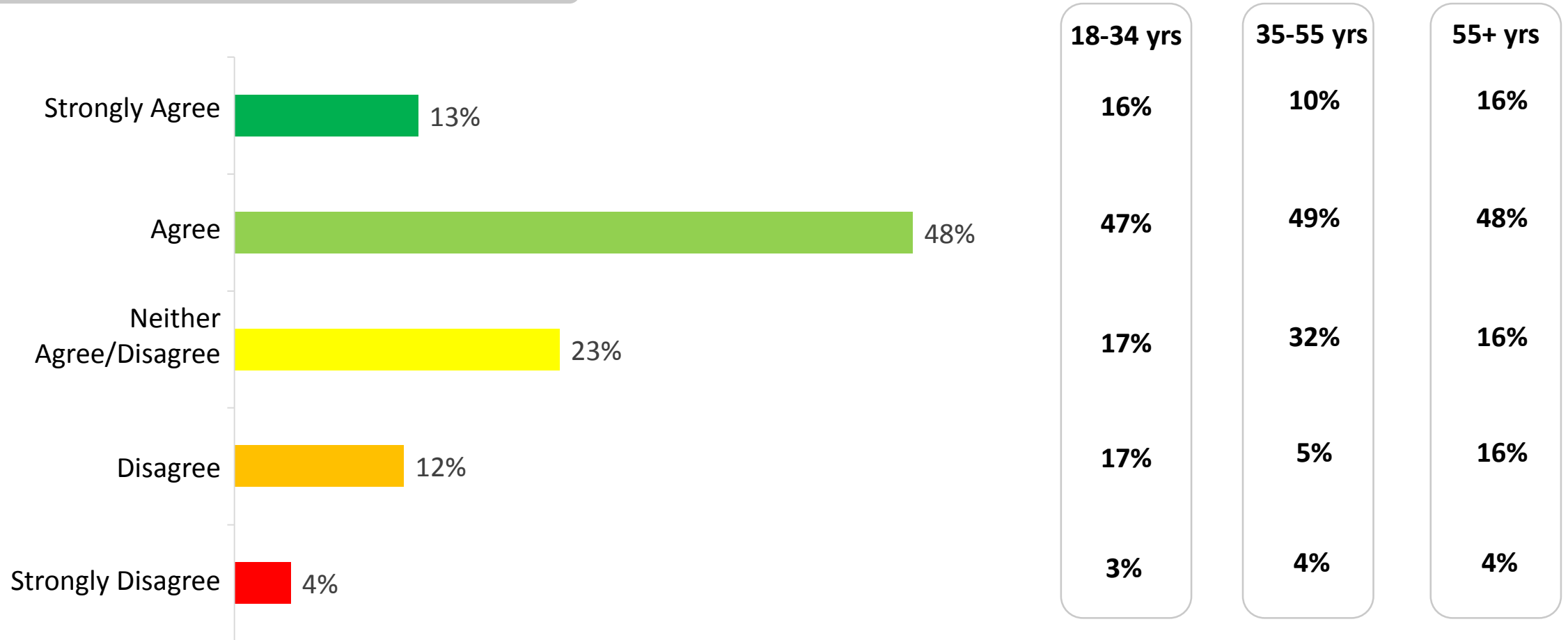


Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: If a person is receiving palliative care, they must give up their other treatments (Single Grid n=500)



61% agree (agree + strongly agree) that they feel comfortable talking about palliative care. Those aged 55+ seem the most comfortable group to think or talk about the subject with 64% agreeing with the statement.

Comfortable talking about palliative care

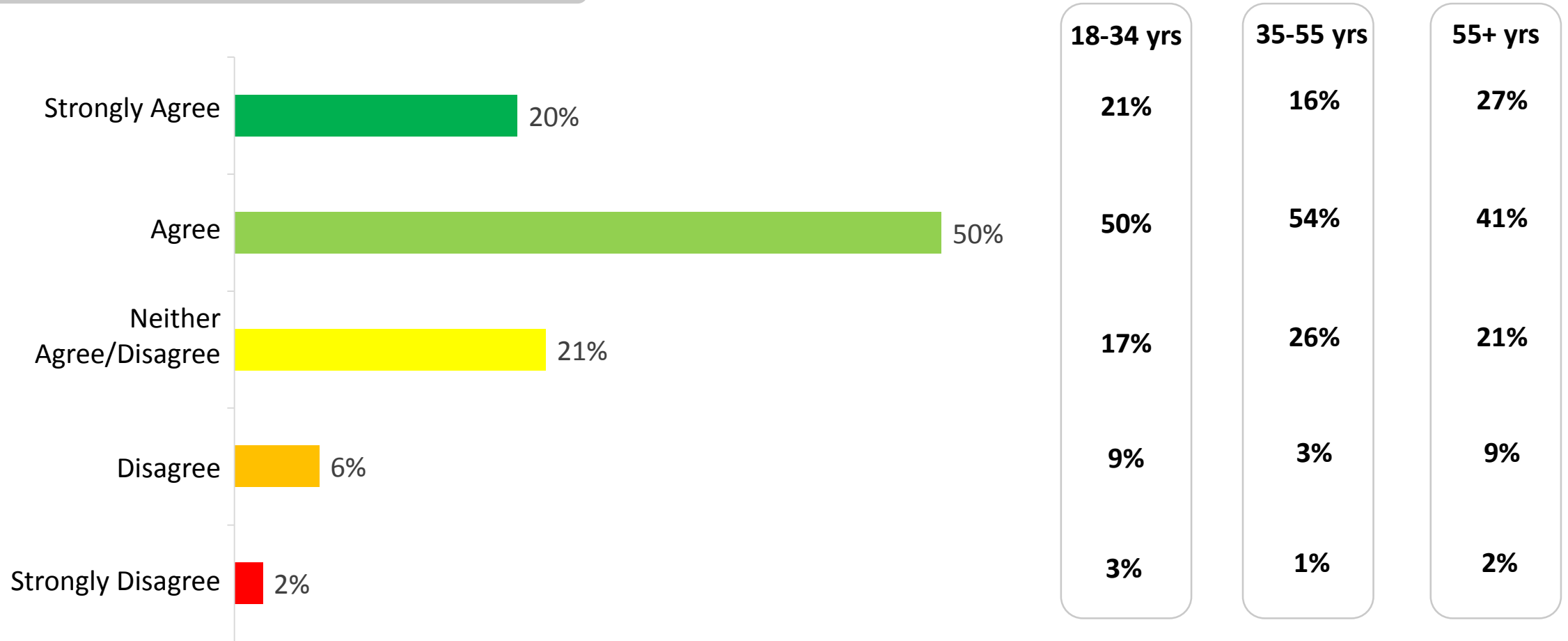


Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: I am comfortable to think or talk about palliative care (Single Grid n=500)

70% of NI respondents agree (agree + strongly agree) that they feel confident to discuss palliative care with a hospital consultant, GP, community nurse or other health and social care professionals.



Discussing palliative care with professionals

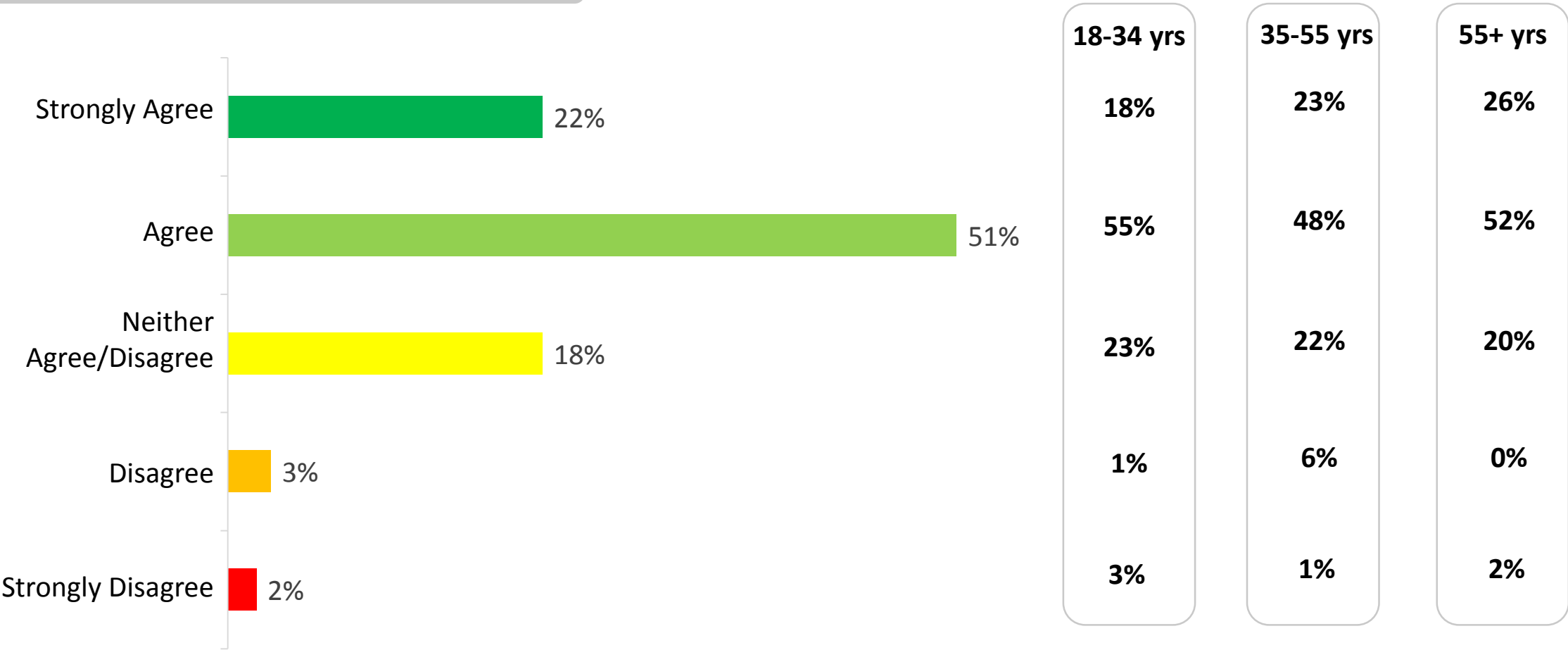


Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: I would feel confident to discuss palliative care with a hospital consultant, GP, community nurse or other health and social care professional (Single Grid n=500)



73% of NI respondents agree (agree + strongly agree) that they would like to be supported to discuss and write down their wishes and preferences for care at the end of life.

Preferences for care

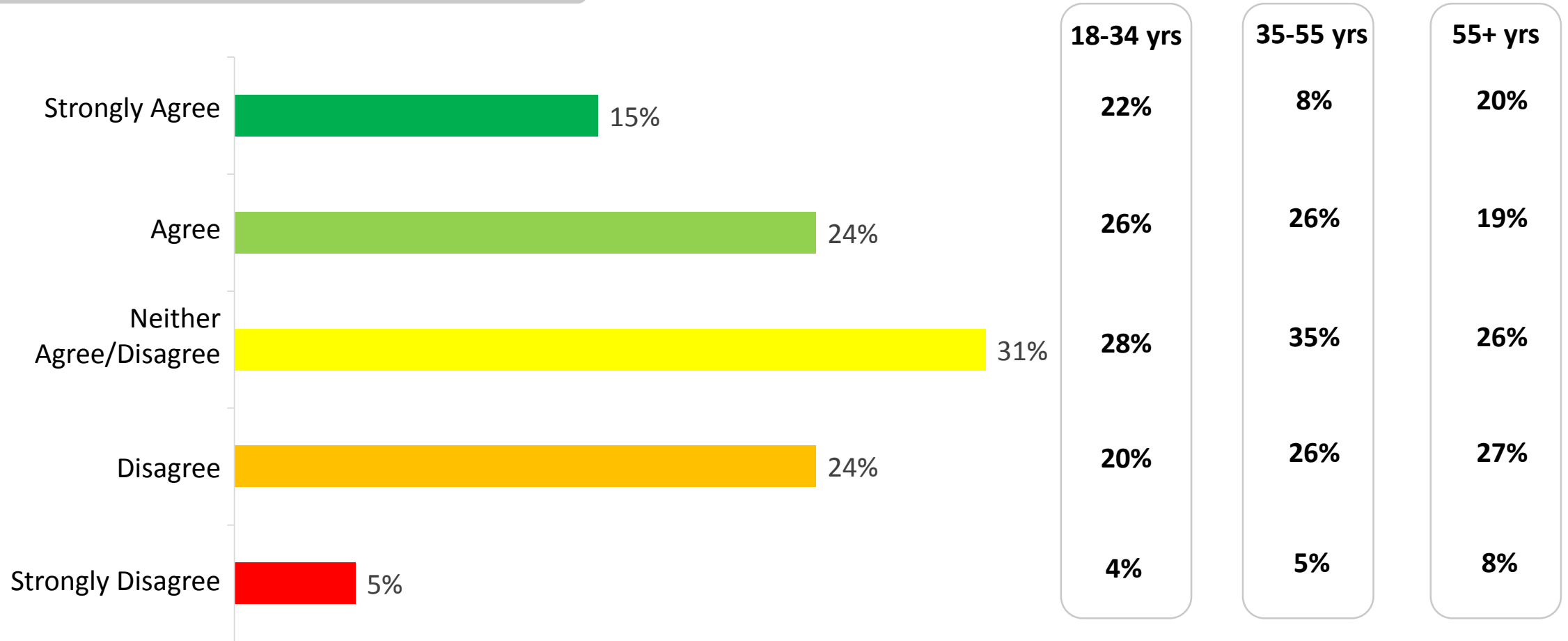


Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: I would like to be supported to discuss and write down my wishes and preferences for care at the end of life (Single Grid n=500)

Over a third (39%) of NI respondents agree (agree + strongly agree) that palliative care is a last resort.



Palliative care as a last resort



Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: Palliative care is a last resort (Single Grid n=500)



28% of NI adults feel more reluctant to think or talk about palliative care due to COVID-19. From those who stated in Q1 that they feel confident in discussing palliative care, 27% now feel more reluctant to think or talk about the topic, due to COVID-19.

Reluctancy to talk about palliative care



18-34 yrs	35-55 yrs	55+ yrs
47%	17%	20%
53%	83%	80%

Insight Box

For Question 1, 61% of adults in NI agreed they were comfortable in discussing palliative care.

*Within this group, **27%** are now more reluctant to think/talk about palliative care than before, due to COVID-19.
n=309*



Almost 2 in 3 adults (64%) in NI have been thinking more about death and dying than before, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The figure is slightly higher among younger adults, aged 18-34, with 70% of them thinking about this subject more.

Thoughts of death and dying due to COVID-19



18-34 yrs	35-55 yrs	55+ yrs
70%	60%	62%
30%	40%	38%

Insight Box

For Question 1, 61% of adults in NI agreed they were comfortable in discussing palliative care.

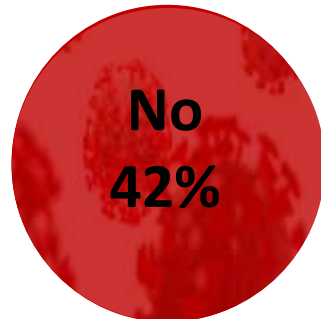
*Within this group, **68%** have been thinking more of death and dying than before, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

n=309



58% of adults in NI stated that the pandemic has increased the importance of discussing their wishes and preferences for care at the end of life. This figure is higher (63%) among adults who in Q1, agreed they would like to be supported to discuss their preferences for care at the end of life.

Discussing wishes and preferences of care



18-34 yrs	35-55 yrs	55+ yrs
63%	52%	60%
37%	48%	40%

Insight Box

For Question 1, 73% of adults in NI agreed they would like to be supported to discuss their preferences for care at the end of life.

*Within this group, **63%** have stated the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the importance of discussing their wishes and preferences for care .*

n=366



64% of respondents in NI stated that the pandemic has increased the importance of discussing PC if they or someone important to them has a life-limiting illness. This figure was slightly higher (70%) among adults agreed in Q1 they were comfortable in discussing PC.

Palliative care with life-limiting illness



	18-34 yrs	35-55 yrs	55+ yrs
Yes	64%	64%	61%
No	36%	36%	39%

Insight Box

For Question 1, 61% of adults in NI agreed they were comfortable in discussing palliative care.

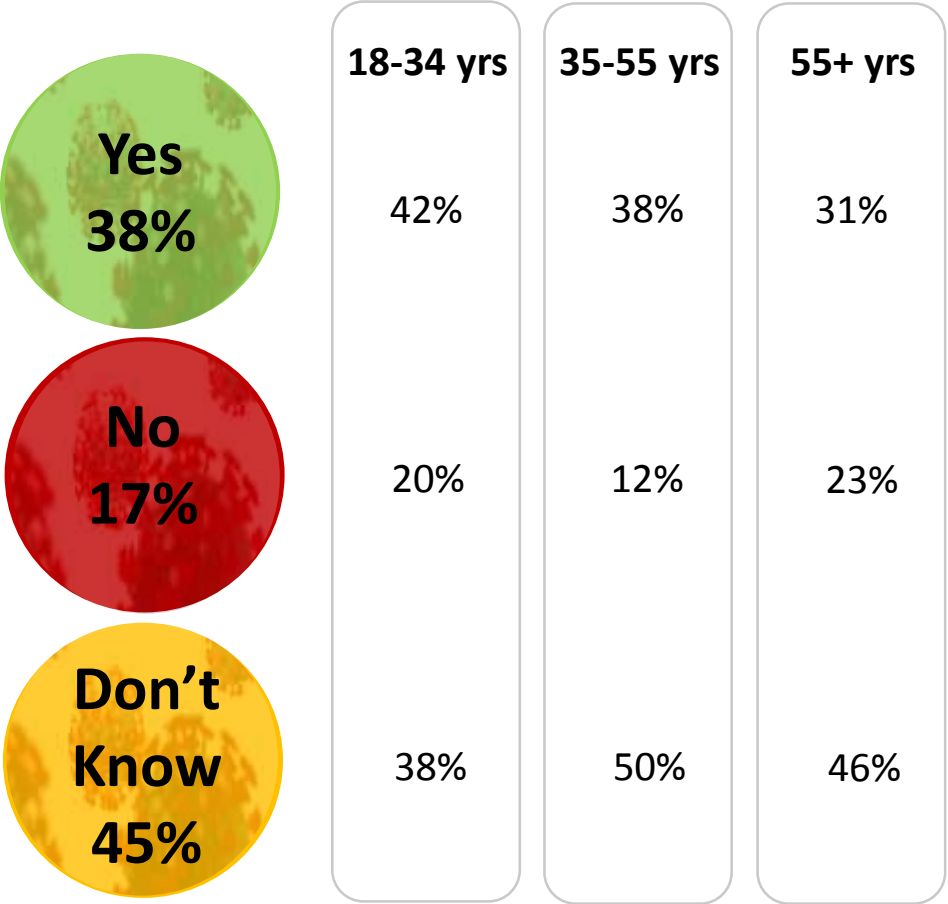
*Within this group, **70%** believe the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the importance of discussing palliative care if they or someone that is important to them has a life-limiting illness.*

n=309



Over a third (38%) of adults in NI believe the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic infection control measures have changed the delivery of palliative care.

Infection control on palliative care



Insight Box

For Question 1, 81% agree that palliative care should be considered as early as possible when diagnosed with any life-limiting illness.

*Within this group, **40%** believe the believe COVID-19 pandemic infection control measures have changed the delivery of palliative care*
n=403



THANK YOU.

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APPENDIX

Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care: **I know how palliative care could help me or someone important to me**



	Total	Gender		County							Age Breakdown		
		Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm.	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
I know how palliative care could help me or someone important to me													
Strongly Agree	17 %	10 %	23 %	10 %	21 %	7 %	18 %	0 %	30 %	21 %	17 %	16 %	18 %
Agree	48 %	53 %	43 %	53 %	42 %	52 %	39 %	46 %	45 %	73 %	43 %	49 %	54 %
Neither Agree nor Disagree	25 %	30 %	21 %	23 %	25 %	41 %	27 %	54 %	20 %	6 %	22 %	31 %	21 %
Disagree	8 %	5 %	10 %	11 %	8 %	0 %	13 %	0 %	6 %	0 %	14 %	4 %	7 %
Strongly Disagree	2 %	2 %	2 %	3 %	4 %	0 %	2 %	0 %	0 %	0 %	5 %	1 %	0 %

Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care: **Palliative care should be considered as early as possible when diagnosed with any life-limiting illness**



	Gender			County							Age Breakdown		
	Total	Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm.	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
Palliative care should be considered as early as possible when diagnosed with any life-limiting illness													
Strongly Agree	24 %	26 %	21 %	24 %	27 %	16 %	21 %	21 %	28 %	19 %	19 %	27 %	27 %
Agree	57 %	55 %	59 %	64 %	49 %	68 %	64 %	51 %	41 %	66 %	59 %	58 %	50 %
Neither Agree nor Disagree	16 %	15 %	16 %	8 %	21 %	16 %	11 %	28 %	28 %	6 %	16 %	13 %	21 %
Disagree	3 %	2 %	4 %	2 %	3 %	0 %	4 %	0 %	3 %	9 %	5 %	2 %	2 %
Strongly Disagree	1 %	1 %	0 %	2 %	0 %	0 %	0 %	0 %	0 %	0 %	2 %	0 %	0 %

Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care: **Palliative care is only for people with advanced cancer**



	Gender			County							Age Breakdown		
	Total	Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm.	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
Palliative care is only for people with advanced cancer													
Strongly Agree	9 %	8 %	10 %	5 %	8 %	0 %	7 %	0 %	21 %	24 %	13 %	5 %	9 %
Agree	20 %	24 %	16 %	23 %	19 %	9 %	24 %	25 %	14 %	12 %	25 %	18 %	14 %
Neither Agree nor Disagree	26 %	23 %	28 %	28 %	23 %	16 %	25 %	46 %	27 %	15 %	27 %	29 %	17 %
Disagree	37 %	36 %	37 %	41 %	35 %	65 %	29 %	28 %	30 %	40 %	27 %	42 %	42 %
Strongly Disagree	9 %	9 %	10 %	3 %	15 %	9 %	16 %	0 %	7 %	9 %	7 %	6 %	19 %

Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care: **If a person is receiving palliative care, they must give up their other treatments**



	Gender			County							Age Breakdown		
	Total	Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm.	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
If a person is receiving palliative care, they must give up their other treatments													
Strongly Agree	5 %	5 %	4 %	2 %	4 %	0 %	7 %	11 %	7 %	6 %	10 %	3 %	0 %
Agree	13 %	13 %	13 %	20 %	8 %	9 %	13 %	7 %	10 %	15 %	22 %	8 %	8 %
Neither Agree nor Disagree	34 %	42 %	27 %	32 %	33 %	39 %	40 %	46 %	33 %	18 %	27 %	40 %	34 %
Disagree	37 %	29 %	44 %	37 %	42 %	42 %	26 %	36 %	33 %	46 %	34 %	36 %	44 %
Strongly Disagree	12 %	11 %	13 %	9 %	12 %	9 %	14 %	0 %	18 %	15 %	7 %	14 %	15 %

Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care: **I am comfortable to think or talk about palliative care**



	Gender			County							Age Breakdown		
	Total	Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm.	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
I am comfortable to think or talk about palliative care													
Strongly Agree	13 %	14 %	13 %	12 %	16 %	9 %	14 %	0 %	14 %	21 %	16 %	10 %	16 %
Agree	48 %	54 %	43 %	53 %	51 %	45 %	47 %	32 %	39 %	58 %	47 %	49 %	48 %
Neither Agree nor Disagree	23 %	21 %	25 %	21 %	21 %	23 %	23 %	58 %	26 %	6 %	17 %	32 %	15 %
Disagree	12 %	10 %	13 %	11 %	11 %	7 %	12 %	11 %	16 %	15 %	17 %	5 %	16 %
Strongly Disagree	4 %	1 %	6 %	3 %	2 %	16 %	4 %	0 %	6 %	0 %	3 %	4 %	4 %



Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care: I would feel confident to discuss palliative care with a hospital consultant, GP, community nurse or other health and social care professional

	Total	Gender		County							Age Breakdown		
		Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm.	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
I would feel confident to discuss palliative care with a hospital consultant, GP, community nurse or other health and social care professional													
Strongly Agree	20 %	21 %	19 %	17 %	26 %	19 %	20 %	21 %	17 %	21 %	21 %	16 %	27 %
Agree	50 %	51 %	49 %	62 %	46 %	42 %	54 %	7 %	37 %	61 %	50 %	54 %	41 %
Neither Agree nor Disagree	22 %	23 %	21 %	13 %	25 %	32 %	21 %	61 %	19 %	18 %	17 %	27 %	21 %
Disagree	6 %	5 %	7 %	8 %	3 %	0 %	2 %	11 %	19 %	0 %	9 %	3 %	9 %
Strongly Disagree	2 %	0 %	4 %	0 %	0 %	7 %	2 %	0 %	9 %	0 %	3 %	1 %	2 %

Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care: **I would like to be supported to discuss and write down my wishes and preferences for care at the end of life**



	Gender			County							Age Breakdown		
	Total	Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm.	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
I would like to be supported to discuss and write down my wishes and preferences for care at the end of life													
Strongly Agree	22 %	23 %	21 %	19 %	22 %	35 %	14 %	21 %	25 %	39 %	18 %	23 %	26 %
Agree	51 %	46 %	56 %	57 %	45 %	42 %	57 %	33 %	49 %	61 %	55 %	48 %	52 %
Neither Agree nor Disagree	22 %	26 %	19 %	17 %	30 %	16 %	25 %	46 %	20 %	0 %	23 %	22 %	21 %
Disagree	3 %	3 %	2 %	5 %	2 %	0 %	2 %	0 %	3 %	0 %	1 %	6 %	0 %
Strongly Disagree	2 %	1 %	2 %	2 %	0 %	7 %	2 %	0 %	3 %	0 %	3 %	1 %	2 %

Q: Please state how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about palliative care: **Palliative care is a last resort**



	Total	Gender		County							Age Breakdown		
		Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
Palliative care is a last resort													
Strongly Agree	15 %	16 %	14 %	11 %	19 %	0 %	9 %	18 %	31 %	15 %	22 %	8 %	20 %
Agree	24 %	25 %	24 %	28 %	19 %	32 %	21 %	39 %	17 %	33 %	26 %	26 %	19 %
Neither Agree nor Disagree	31 %	34 %	28 %	28 %	35 %	25 %	33 %	33 %	35 %	21 %	28 %	36 %	27 %
Disagree	24 %	20 %	28 %	28 %	21 %	29 %	32 %	11 %	10 %	31 %	20 %	26 %	27 %
Strongly Disagree	5 %	4 %	6 %	5 %	5 %	13 %	5 %	0 %	7 %	0 %	4 %	5 %	8 %

Q: In terms of Covid-19, how has it affected your thoughts on palliative care?



	Total	Gender		County							Age Breakdown		
		Male	Female	Belfast	Rest of Antrim	Armagh	Down	Ferm	Derry	Tyrone	18-34	35-54	55+
The COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic has made me more reluctant to think or talk about palliative care than before													
Yes	28 %	34 %	22 %	43 %	25 %	32 %	18 %	21 %	20 %	21 %	47 %	17 %	20 %
No	72 %	66 %	78 %	57 %	75 %	68 %	82 %	79 %	80 %	79 %	53 %	83 %	80 %
The COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic has made me think more about death and dying than before													
Yes	64 %	60 %	67 %	69 %	63 %	55 %	51 %	85 %	58 %	76 %	70 %	60 %	62 %
No	36 %	40 %	33 %	31 %	37 %	45 %	49 %	15 %	42 %	24 %	30 %	40 %	38 %
The COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic has increased the importance of discussing my wishes and preferences for care at the end of life													
Yes	58 %	55 %	60 %	65 %	59 %	45 %	43 %	67 %	53 %	70 %	63 %	52 %	60 %
No	42 %	45 %	40 %	35 %	41 %	55 %	57 %	33 %	47 %	30 %	37 %	48 %	40 %
The COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic has increased the importance of discussing palliative care if I or someone important to me has a life-limiting illness													
Yes	64 %	65 %	62 %	77 %	62 %	52 %	57 %	67 %	49 %	61 %	64 %	64 %	61 %
No	36 %	35 %	38 %	23 %	38 %	48 %	43 %	33 %	51 %	39 %	36 %	36 %	39 %
COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic infection control measures have changed the delivery of palliative care													
Yes	38 %	43 %	33 %	32 %	51 %	25 %	29 %	36 %	49 %	33 %	42 %	38 %	31 %
No	17 %	15 %	19 %	16 %	18 %	7 %	25 %	18 %	13 %	12 %	20 %	11 %	23 %
Don't Know	45 %	42 %	48 %	52 %	31 %	68 %	47 %	46 %	38 %	55 %	38 %	50 %	46 %