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Flash Eurobarometer 284
October 2009
Lisbon Treaty Post-Referendum Survey Ireland 2009

Irish questionnaire

The GALLUP Organization

Flash EB Series #284

Lisbon Treaty Post-Referendum Survey Ireland 2009

Survey conducted by The Gallup Organization,
Hungary upon the request of the EC
Representation in Ireland



Coordinated by Directorate-General
Communication

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view of the European Commission.
The interpretations and opinions contained in it
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THE GALLUP ORGANIZATION

II. Survey Details

This Flash Eurobarometer 284 “*Second post-referendum survey in Ireland*” was conducted on behalf of the European Commission Representation in Ireland by Gallup Hungary.

Telephone interviews were conducted in each region of Ireland between the 3rd and the 7th of October 2009, by Gallup UK.

Representativeness of the results

Each regional sample is representative of the population aged 18 years and over. To correct for sampling disparities, a post-stratification weighting of the results was implemented based on key socio-demographic variables and the reported voting behaviour to reflect the characteristics of the statistical population.

Sizes of the sample

2004 interviews were conducted in total.

Questionnaires

The questionnaire prepared for this survey is reproduced at the end of this section (see hereafter).

Table of results

VOLUME C: RESPONDENTS’ DEMOGRAPHICS

VOLUME B presents the results broken down by the following socio-demographic variables:

- Sex (male, female)
- Age (18-24, 25-39, 40-54, 55 +)
- Education (15&-, 16-20, 21&+, still in full time education)
- Subjective urbanisation (metropolitan zone; other town/urban centre; rural zone)
- Occupation (self-employed, employee, manual worker, without a professional activity)
- Voted on 2nd of October (yes, no)
- How did you voted (yes, no)

Sampling error

Surveys are designed and conducted to provide an estimate of a true value of characteristics of a population at a given time. An estimate of a survey is unlikely to exactly equal the true population quantity of interest for a variety of reasons. One of these reasons is that data in a survey are collected from only some – a sample of – members of the population, this to make data collection cheaper and faster. The “margin of error” is a common summary of sampling error, which quantifies uncertainty about (or confidence in) a survey result.

Usually, one calculates a 95 percent confidence interval of the format: survey estimate +/- margin of error. This interval of values will contain the true population value at least 95% of time.

For example, if it was estimated that 45% of EU citizens are in favour of a single European currency and this estimate is based on a sample of 100 EU citizens, the associated margin of error is about 10 percentage points. The 95 percent confidence interval for support for a European single currency

would be (45%-10%) to (45%+10%), suggesting that in the EU the support for a European single currency could range from 35% to 55%. Because of the small sample size of 100 EU citizens, there is considerable uncertainty about whether or not the citizens of the EU support a single currency.

As a general rule, the more interviews conducted (sample size), the smaller the margin of error. Larger samples are more likely to give results closer to the true population quantity and thus have smaller margins of error. For example, a sample of 500 will produce a margin of error of no more than about 4.5 percentage points, and a sample of 1,000 will produce a margin of error of no more than about 3 percentage points.

Margin of error (95% confidence interval)

Survey estimate	Sample size (n)									
	10	50	100	150	200	400	800	1000	2000	4000
5%	13.5%	6.0%	4.3%	3.5%	3.0%	2.1%	1.5%	1.4%	1.0%	0.7%
10%	18.6%	8.3%	5.9%	4.8%	4.2%	2.9%	2.1%	1.9%	1.3%	0.9%
25%	26.8%	12.0%	8.5%	6.9%	6.0%	4.2%	3.0%	2.7%	1.9%	1.3%
50%	31.0%	13.9%	9.8%	8.0%	6.9%	4.9%	3.5%	3.1%	2.2%	1.5%
75%	26.8%	12.0%	8.5%	6.9%	6.0%	4.2%	3.0%	2.7%	1.9%	1.3%
90%	18.6%	8.3%	5.9%	4.8%	4.2%	2.9%	2.1%	1.9%	1.3%	0.9%
95%	13.5%	6.0%	4.3%	3.5%	3.0%	2.1%	1.5%	1.4%	1.0%	0.7%

(The values in the table are the margin of error – at 95% confidence level – for a given survey estimate and sample size)

The examples show that the size of a sample is a crucial factor affecting the margin of error. Nevertheless, once past a certain point – a sample size of 800 or 1,000 – the improvement is small. For example, to reduce the margin of error to 1.5% would require a sample size of 4,000.

III. Questionnaire

POST- REFERENDUM QUESTIONNAIRE IN IRELAND

[TREND] [FL265 Q2]

Q1. Do you generally support or oppose Ireland's membership of the European Union?

- Support 1
- Oppose..... 2
- [Can't decide]..... 3
- [DK/NA] 9

Q2. Did you vote in the Referendum on Friday, 2nd of October?

- Yes..... 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

IF NOT PARTICIPATED IN THE REFERENDUM (Q2=2 OR 9):

Q3. If you did not vote on the Referendum on Friday, it is because...?

[READ OUT- ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE]

- Yes..... 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

- A. You are not interested in politics..... 1 2 9
- B. You are not interested in European affairs 1 2 9
- C. You were not informed about the issues at stake 1 2 9
- D. You were not informed about the content of the Lisbon Treaty 1 2 9
- E. You have been too busy 1 2 9
- F. You believed that voting in this referendum would not change anything..... 1 2 9
- G. The political campaigns around the referendum turned you off..... 1 2 9
- H. You felt you did not fully understand the issues raised by the referendum..... 1 2 9
- I. You had more important things to do 1 2 9

[TREND] [FL265 Q7]

NEW1 And did you vote in the Referendum on the Treaty of Lisbon in June 2008?

- Yes –voted..... 1
- No –did not vote 2
- Was not old enough to vote..... 8
- [DK/NA]..... 9

ASK ALL

Q4. From which of the following sources have you received most of the information related to the Referendum?

[READ OUT- ROTATE - MAX 2 ANSWERS]

- Irish government..... 1
- European Commission information office..... 2
- Family, friends, colleagues 3
- Trade-unions..... 4
- Political parties..... 5
- NGOs..... 6
- [None] 7
- [DK/NA]..... 9

ASK ALL

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q11]

Q5. From which of the following channels//means of communication have you received most of the information related to the Referendum?

[READ OUT -ROTATE - MAX 2 ANSWERS]

- Internet..... 1
- Television..... 2
- Radio 3
- Newspapers..... 4
- Debates, public meetings 5
- [None] 6
- [DK]..... 9

QU1

[TREND] [FL265 Q5]

P1. Do you recall seeing or hearing RECENTLY a campaign about the EU's role in Ireland?

- Yes 1
- No2 GO TO Q6
- [DK].....9

[TREND] [FL265 Q6]

P2. Do you recall the name of that campaign? If yes, can you please tell me what it was?

[OPEN ENDED, DO NOT READ, JUST CODE]

- -Yes, correct - (talktoeu or eumatters)..... 1
- -Yes, but not the correct name2
- -No3
- [DK/NA]9

*IF PARTICIPATED IN THE REFERENDUM (Q2=1)***Q6. When did you make up your mind on how would you vote in the Referendum?**

[READ OUT - ONLY ONE ANSWER IS POSSIBLE]

- After the first Referendum 1
- At the time the second Referendum was announced2
- At the beginning of the campaign3
- Only in the last weeks4
- Only on the day of the second Referendum..... 5
- [DK/NA]9

*IF PARTICIPATED IN THE REFERENDUM (Q2=1)***Q7. Did you change your mind about how to vote in the course of the campaign?**

- Yes..... 1
- No2
- [DK/NA].....3

ASK ALL

[TREND] [FL265 Q9C]

Q8. In your opinion is the Lisbon Treaty good or bad for Ireland?

- Good 1
- Bad2
- [DK/NA]9

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q23]

Q9. In your opinion which campaign was the more convincing, the YES or the NO campaign?

- The “YES” campaign 1
- The “No” campaign 2
- Both of them, about equally 3
- None of them 4
- Did not follow the campaign 5
- [DK/NA] 9

ASK ALL

Q10. Regardless of whether you participated or not in the Referendum, do you agree with the statement that the Referendum was important for the future position of Ireland in the EU?

- Yes..... 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

*IF PARTICIPATED IN THE REFERENDUM (Q2=1)***Q11. How did you vote in the Referendum on Friday, 2nd of October? Did you vote Yes or No to the Treaty?**

- Yes..... 1
- No 2
- [Voted blank]..... 3
- [DK/NA] 9

IF NEW1=1

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q8A]

NEW2. And how did you vote in the Referendum in 2008?

- Voted “Yes” /Voted in favour 1
- Voted “No” / Voted against it 2
- [DK/NA]..... 9

*ASK IF NEW2=1 AND Q11=1***Q22A. If you voted yes in 2008 and voted yes on 2nd of October in 2009 what has made you decide this?**

[OPEN ENDED WRITE IN ALL SPONTANEOUS ANSWERS]

ASK IF NEW2=2 AND Q11=1

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q22A]

Q22B. If you voted no in 2008 and voted YES on 2nd of October in 2009 what has changed your opinion?

[OPEN ENDED WRITE IN ALL SPONTANEOUS ANSWERS]

ASK IF NEW2=2 AND Q11=2

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q22C]

Q22C. If you voted No in 2008 and are still voted No on 2nd of October, 2009 what has made you decide this?

[OPEN ENDED WRITE IN ALL SPONTANEOUS ANSWERS]

ASK IF NEW1=2 AND Q2=2

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q22D]

Q22D. If you didn't vote in 2008 and did not vote on 2nd of October, in 2009 referendum, what has made you decide this?

[OPEN ENDED WRITE IN ALL SPONTANEOUS ANSWERS]

ASK IF NEW1=2 AND Q11=1

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q22E]

Q22E. If you didn't vote in 2008 and voted yes on 2nd of October, in 2009 what has changed your opinion?

[OPEN ENDED WRITE IN ALL SPONTANEOUS ANSWERS]

ASK IF NEW1 OR NEW2= DK/NA AND Q2= 1 OR 2

Q22F. You voted on 2nd of October, in 2009 referendum, what has made you decide this?

[OPEN ENDED WRITE IN ALL SPONTANEOUS ANSWERS]

IF Q11=1, VOTED YES

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q9A, Q21A]

Q12. Please tell me what are the reasons why you voted YES to the Treaty on 2nd of October?

[OPEN ENDED WRITE IN ALL SPONTANEOUS ANSWERS]

IF Q11=2, VOTED NO

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q9B, Q21B]

Q13. Please tell me what are the reasons why you voted NO to the Treaty on 2nd of October?

[OPEN ENDED WRITE IN ALL SPONTANEOUS ANSWERS]

ASK ALL

Q14. Please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with each of the following statements

- Tend to agree 1
- Tend to disagree.....2
- [DK/NA].....9

[READ OUT- ROTATE -ONE ANSWER PER LINE]

- A. The YES vote ensures that the Lisbon Treaty can be implemented..... 1 2 9
- B. The YES vote means the Irish government negotiated good exceptions for Ireland 1 2 9
- C. The YES vote is a success of the government..... 1 2 9
- D. The YES vote strengthen Ireland's position in the European Union 1 2 9
- E. The YES vote does not infringe on Ireland's neutrality 1 2 9
- F. The YES vote will allow EU institutions work better..... 1 2 9
- G. The YES vote will not impact Ireland's tax system..... 1 2 9
- H. The YES vote means that the EU don't interfere on our legislation related to abortion, gay marriages and euthanasia..... 1 2 9
- I. The YES vote will lead to a more federal Europe 1 2 9
- K. The YES vote makes it easier for the EU to negotiate on climate change..... 1 2 9
- L. The YES vote helps Ireland's economy 1 2 9

ASK ALL

[TREND] [FL265 Q25]

P5. Did you vote in the Dáil election in 2007?

- Yes..... 1
- No2
- [Was not eligible to vote]8
- [DK/NA]9

IF ANSWER IS YES IN P5.

[MODIFIED TREND] [FL265 Q25]

P6. Which party did you vote for?**[DO NOT READ OUT JUST CODE, ONLY ONE ANSWER IS POSSIBLE]**

- Fianna Fáil..... 1
- Fine Gael2
- Labour Party3
- Green Party4
- Sinn Féin.....5
- Progressive Democrats6
- [DK/NA]9

D1. Gender

(DO NOT ASK- MARK APPROPRIATE)

Male	1
Female.....	2

D2. How old are you?

[][]	years old
[99]	[REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]

D3. How old were you when you stopped full-time education?

(Write in THE AGE WHEN EDUCATION WAS TERMINATED)

[][]	years old
[99]	[REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]
[01]	[NEVER BEEN IN FULL TIME EDUCATION]
[00]	[STILL IN FULL TIME EDUCATION]

D4. As far as your current occupation is concerned, would you say you are self-employed, an employee, a manual worker or would you say that you are without a professional activity? Does it mean that you are a(n)...

[IF A RESPONSE TO THE MAIN CATEGORY IS GIVEN, READ OUT THE RESPECTIVE SUB-CATEGORIES - ONE ANSWER ONLY]

- Self-employed

→ i.e. :	- farmer, forester, fisherman	11
	- owner of a shop, craftsman.....	12
	- professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, architect,...)	13
	- manager of a company	14
	- other	15

- Employee

→ i.e. :	- professional (employed doctor, lawyer, accountant, architect)	21
	- general management, director or top management.....	22
	- middle management	23
	- Civil servant	24
	- office clerk	25
	- other employee (salesman, nurse, etc...)	26
	- other	27

- Manual worker

→ i.e. :	- supervisor / foreman (team manager, etc...)	31
	- Manual worker	32
	- unskilled manual worker	33
	- other	34

- Without a professional activity

→ i.e. :	- looking after the home	41
	- student (full time).....	42
	- retired	43
	- seeking a job.....	44
	- other	45

- (Refusal)

D5. Irish NUTS 2-level regions

IE011 Border	IE022 Mid-East
IE012 Midland	IE023 Mid-West
IE013 West	IE024 South-East
IE021 Dublin	IE025 South-West

D6. Would you say you live in a ...?

- metropolitan zone.....	1
- other town/urban centre.....	2
- rural zone.....	3
- (Refusal)	9

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