

ZA7944

**Flash Eurobarometer 511
(Citizens' Perceptions about Competition Policy)**

**Country Questionnaire
Ireland (English)**

D1 How old are you? (WRITE DOWN AGE IN YEARS IF RESPONDENT IS 15 YEARS OR OVER) _____ years	
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT) <i>[Stop interview if <15]</i>	999
D2 Which of the following describes how you think of yourself? (READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Male	1
Female	2
In another way	3
Prefer not to say	4
D3a What is your nationality or nationalities if you hold more than one? Select all that apply. (DO NOT READ OUT; MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)	
Irish nationality	1
Other nationality	2
Refusal	999
<i>[Stop interview if D3a = 999]</i>	
D3a=2	
D3b Which nationality or nationalities do you hold? Select all that apply. (DO NOT READ OUT; MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)	
Belgian	1
Danish	2
German	3
Greek	4
Spanish	5
Finnish	6
French	7
Irish	8
Italian	9
Luxembourgish	10
Dutch	11
Austrian	12
Portuguese	13
Swedish	14
Bulgarian	31
Cyprian	32
Czech	33
Estonian	34
Hungarian	35
Latvian	36
Lithuanian	37
Maltese	38
Polish	39
Romanian	40
Slovak	41
Slovenian	42
Croatian	46
Other	998
Refusal	999
<i>[Stop interview if D3b = [998 [exclusive] or 999] and D3a≠1]</i>	

D3a#1	
D3c Are you a permanent resident of Ireland? (DO NOT READ OUT)	
Yes	1
No	0
<i>[Stop interview if D3c =0]</i>	
D12 In which county do you live?	
(LOCAL CODES)	
Don't know	998
Intro_Q1 I would like to ask for your views on competition policy. The main idea behind competition policy is that companies can only compete on their own merits to become more attractive to consumers, for instance, they can offer lower prices or better quality. Practices that limit competition between companies are illegal.	
Q1 If you were to identify a major problem in terms of competition, where or who would you turn to? (READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC)	1
A national court	2
A European court	3
The European Commission	4
A consumer organisation	5
Other (DO NOT READ)	6
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ)	998
Q2 Over the last 12 months, have you heard or read about any of the following types of competition cases? (READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)	
Q2_1 Illegal agreements between companies that increase prices or otherwise distort competition	
Q2_2 Proposed acquisitions that reduce the number of competitors on a given market	
Q2_3 Abusive market behaviours of large companies	
Q2_4 State subsidies or advantages, such as favourable tax treatment, granted selectively to certain companies	
Yes	1
No	2
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998
Q2_1 or Q2_2 or Q2_3 or Q2_4=1	
Q3 Where did you hear or read about these competition cases? (READ OUT – MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)	
Newspapers or magazines (including online)	1
Specialised press	2
TV	3
Radio and podcasts	4
Social media	5
Word of mouth	6
Other (DO NOT READ)	7
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

Q2_1 or Q2_2 or Q2_3 or Q2_4=1

Q4 Do you know which authority dealt with this case/these cases? (READ OUT – MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC)	1
A national court	2
A European court	3
The European Commission	4
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	5
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

Q5 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree. Competition between companies... (READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

- Q5_1 ... allows for better prices for consumers
Q5_2 ... allows for more choice for consumers
Q5_3 ... allows for higher quality goods and services
Q5_4 ... encourages innovation and economic growth
Q5_5 ... encourages more environmentally friendly goods and services
Q5_6 ... encourages the digital transformation of the economy and society
Q5_7 ... helps EU companies become more competitive on global markets

Totally agree	1
Tend to agree	2
Tend to disagree	3
Totally disagree	4
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

Q6a Have you ever experienced problems due to a lack of competition in the following sectors that resulted in problems such as higher prices, less product or supplier choice, or lower quality? Firstly? (READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Telecommunications and Internet access	1
Energy (e.g. gas, electricity)	2
Financial services (e.g. banks, insurance)	3
Transport services (e.g. railways, airlines)	4
Food retailing (e.g. supermarkets)	5
Pharmaceutical products (e.g. medicines, health-related products)	6
Education and human services (e.g. healthcare)	7
Another sector (DO NOT READ)	8
None (DO NOT READ)	9
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

Q6a#9 or 998

Q6b And secondly? (READ OUT – ONE ANSWER)

Telecommunications and Internet access	1
Energy (e.g. gas, electricity)	2
Financial services (e.g. banks, insurance)	3
Transport services (e.g. railways, airlines)	4
Food retailing (e.g. supermarkets)	5
Pharmaceutical products (e.g. medicines, health-related products)	6
Education and human services (e.g. healthcare)	7
Another sector (DO NOT READ)	8
None (DO NOT READ)	9
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

Q6a#9 or 998

Q7a You have just mentioned that companies are not sufficiently competing in: [ANSWER GIVEN IN Q6a]. What do you think are the main problems in this sector? (READ OUT – MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

Prices are too high	1
There are no significant differences in prices for similar goods or services	2
It is difficult to compare prices	3
The quality of the goods or services is not satisfactory	4
There is not enough choice	5
It is difficult to change suppliers	6
Other (DO NOT READ)	7
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

Q6b#9 or 998

Q7b You also mentioned that companies are not sufficiently competing in: [ANSWER GIVEN IN Q6b]. What do you think are the main problems in this sector? (READ OUT – MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

Prices are too high	1
There are no significant differences in prices for similar goods or services	2
It is difficult to compare prices	3
The quality of the goods or services is not satisfactory	4
There is not enough choice	5
It is difficult to change suppliers	6
Other (DO NOT READ)	7
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

Q8 Can policies that enhance competition make an important contribution, a limited contribution, no contribution or be harmful to achieving the following objectives? (READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Q8_1 Stimulating economic growth and employment

Q8_2 Stimulating innovation

Q8_3 Allowing better, cheaper products and services for all

Important contribution	1
Limited contribution	2
No contribution	3
Harmful	4
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

Q9 More generally, how important do you think the following improvements to competition are? (READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Taking advantages away from competitors who are subsidised by non-EU governments	1
Taking advantages away from competitors who are subsidised by EU governments	2
Preventing players across market sectors from abusing their market power	3
Preventing mergers and acquisitions that reduce competition in a given sector	4
Fighting cartels	5
Very important	1
Fairly important	2
Not very important	3
Not at all important	4
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998

D4 How old were you when you stopped full-time education?	
(DO NOT READ OUT)	
_____ years	
Still in full-time education	996
Never been in full-time education	997
Don't know	998
Refusal	999
D5a As far as your current occupation is concerned, would you say you are...?	
(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Self-employed	1
Employee	2
Manual worker	3
Without a professional activity	4
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	999
D5a=1	
D5b Would you say you are...?	
(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Farmer, forester, fisherman	1
Owner of shop, craftsman	2
Professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, architect,...)	3
Manager of a company	4
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	5
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	999
D5a=2	
D5c Would you say you are...?	
(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Professional (employed doctor, lawyer, accountant, architect, ...)	6
General management, director or top management	7
Middle management	8
Civil servant	9
Office clerk	10
Other employee (salesman, nurse, ...)	11
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	12
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	999
D5a=3	
D5d Would you say you are...?	
(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Supervisor/foreman (team manager, ...)	13
Manual worker	14
Unskilled manual worker	15
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	16
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	999

D5a=4		
D5e	Would you say you are...? (READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Looking after the home	17
	Student (full-time)	18
	Retired	19
	Seeking a job	20
	Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	21
	Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	999
D13	Would you say you live in...? (READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	A rural area or village	1
	Small or medium-sized town	2
	Large town/city	3
	Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	998
D22	How many people aged 15 years or more live in your household, yourself included?	

	Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	998
	Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	999
SAMPLE=LANDLINE		
D18	Do you also use one or more mobile phones? (READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Yes, one mobile phone	1
	Yes, more than one mobile phone	2
	No	0
SAMPLE=MOBILE		
D19	Do you use more than one mobile phone? (READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Yes	1
	No	0
SAMPLE=MOBILE		
D20	Do you also have a landline telephone at home? Do not include telephones only used for business purposes or for connecting to the Internet or to a fax machine. (READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Yes	1
	No	0