



Population Survey (Republic of Ireland)

23 June 2023

FINAL



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Executive Summary

The Commission for Victims and Survivors (CVS) commissioned Social Market Research (SMR) to undertake a survey of adults (aged 18+) in the Republic of Ireland (ROI) to assess issues relating to victims and / or survivors of the Troubles / Conflict in Northern Ireland. The survey is based on a sample of 1010 adults (aged 18+) using an online panel methodology. The survey was conducted in accordance with the ISO20252 Standard and fieldwork was carried out in March 2023.

Key Findings

Meeting the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor of the Troubles / Conflict

- 10% say they meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor of the Troubles / Conflict in N Ireland

Being affected in some way by the Troubles / Conflict

- 19% say they have a distant relative, neighbour, colleague, or friend affected by a Troubles/Conflict related incident
- 7% say their mental health has been affected by a Troubles/Conflict related incident
- 7% say they have been present at, or witnessed, a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident
- 4% say they have been bereaved as a result of a Troubles / Conflict related incident and 3% say they have provided medical or other emergency assistance to an individual in connection with a conflict related incident
- 62% of those who said their mental or physical health has been affected by the Troubles / Conflict, say their mental or physical health continues to be affected

Addressing the legacy of the Troubles / Conflict, accessing services, a 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme' and the Irish Government paying regard to the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict

- 82% believe it is important to address the legacy of the Troubles/Conflict in the Republic of Ireland
- 79% support the view that victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict living in the Republic of Ireland should be able to access the same services and support as those living in Northern Ireland
- 75% support the establishment of a 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme' that awards payments to permanently physically and psychologically injured victims and survivors of the Troubles living in the Republic of Ireland
- 69% believe Irish Government Departments and their strategies and initiatives should pay regard to the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict

Teaching the history of the Troubles / Conflict in schools and familiarity with terms relating to Troubles / Conflict

- 43% believe teaching of the history of the Troubles/Conflict should be compulsory in all schools and for all ages (5-18) in the Republic of Ireland, with 22% saying it should be compulsory at secondary school level only (only 3% are unsupportive of the history of the Troubles/Conflict being taught in schools in the Republic of Ireland)
- 58% say they have some familiarity with the terms 'trans-generational' and/or 'inter-generational' as they relate to the Troubles/Conflict

Perception of how different events, institutions and organisations have impacted on victims and / or survivors of Troubles / Conflict

- 41% believe that community groups and organisations have positively impacted victims and / or survivors, with similar numbers supporting the view that the Irish Government (23%), and media coverage of victims and survivors issues (22%), have positively impacted victims and/or survivors
- 50% believe that Brexit issues (e.g. NI Protocol) have negatively impacted victims and/or survivors, with similar numbers saying that the UK Government (44%), and paramilitaries (46%), have negatively impacted victims and/or survivors

Conclusions

This survey shows that one in ten adults in the Republic of Ireland believe they meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor of the Troubles / Conflict in Northern Ireland. A significant number say they have been affected in some way by a Troubles/Conflict related incident, with this more common among particular groups including men, younger age groups, those living in close proximity to the border, and those living in Ulster. Having a distant relative, neighbour, colleague, or friend affected by a Troubles/Conflict related incident, is the most common way that people have been affected.

The survey estimates that 13% of those who either meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor, or who have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, currently access services. However, a significant number of those impacted by the Troubles / Conflict don't currently access support or services but would like to. The survey also shows that most (62%) of those who said their mental and physical has been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, say that their mental or physical health continues to be affected.

Most (82%) adults in the Republic of Ireland believe it is important to address the legacy of the Troubles/Conflict in the Republic of Ireland, with strong support (79%) for the view that victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict living in the Republic of Ireland should be able to access the same services and support as those living in Northern Ireland.

There is also strong support (75%) for a '*Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme*' (similar to that operated in Northern Ireland) for permanently disabled victims and survivors born in the Republic of Ireland, with a majority (69%) of adults also supporting the view that Irish Government Departments and their strategies and initiatives should pay regard to the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict.

Just 3% believe that the history of the Troubles / Conflict should not be taught in schools in the Republic of Ireland, with 43% of the view that teaching of the history of the Troubles/Conflict should be compulsory in all schools and for all ages (5-18). Almost six out of ten adults (58%) have some familiarity with the terms 'trans-generational' and/or 'inter-generational' as they relate to the Troubles/Conflict.

Most (63%) adults believe there should be some form of a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles in the Republic of Ireland, with community groups and organisations perceived to be most likely (41%) to have positively impacted victims and / or survivors. In contrast, Brexit issues (e.g. NI Protocol) are perceived by 50% of adults in the Republic of Ireland as having negatively impacted victims and/or survivors (50%).

1. Introduction

In January 2023, The Commission for Victims and Survivors (CVS) appointed Social Market Research (SMR) to undertake a survey among adults in the Republic of Ireland (RoI) on issues relating to the Troubles / Conflict in Northern Ireland (NI).

1.1 Survey Focus and Content

The aim of the survey was to explore:

- The prevalence of being a victim and / or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict in NI
- Being affected by the Troubles/Conflict in NI
- Use of services or support by victims and / or survivors
- Health impacts as a result of being a victim and / or survivor
- The importance of addressing the legacy of the Troubles / Conflict in NI
- Support for a 'Troubles Permanent Disability Payment Scheme' for victims and / or survivors living in RoI
- Views on government departments and strategies paying regard to the needs of victims and / or survivors
- Support for teaching the history of the Troubles / Conflict in the formal education sector in RoI
- Familiarity with key terms 'transgenerational' and / or 'inter-generational'
- Perceived impact of events, institutions or organisations on victims and / or survivors
- Support for establishing a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and / or survivors to access in RoI
- Views on the provision of specific services and support for victims and / or survivors to access in RoI
- Further comments

1.2 Methodology

The survey is based on 1010 interviews with a sample of the general public in RoI. The survey was conducted using an online panel methodology with results representative of the RoI adult population aged 18+. The survey has a margin of error of +/-3.1% (at most). As part of the survey development process, SMR consulted with three key stakeholders on the structure and content of the survey questionnaire. These stakeholders included: the Department of Foreign Affairs (DfA) and the Department of Justice (DoJ) in the Republic of Ireland; The Executive Office in Northern Ireland (TEO); and, the Victims and Survivors Service (VSS) in NI. Fieldwork was conducted between 15 and 28 March 2023. The research was conducted in line with ISO20252 of which Social Market Research is fully accredited. The survey questionnaire is included as Appendix 1.

1.2.1 Sample Profile

Table 1.1 presents an overview of the sample profile compared with population estimates¹.

		Sample (%)	Population (n)
Sex	Male	48	49
	Female	52	51
Age	18-24	11	11
	25-34	16	17
	35-44	21	21
	45-54	19	18
	55-64	16	15
	65+	16	19
Socio-economic groups	ABC1	55	43
	C2DE	43	51
	F	1	6
Area ²	Dublin	27	29
	Rest of Leinster	26	27
	Munster	28	27
	Connacht / Ulster	19	18

¹ Source: AIMRO (Association of Irish Market Research Organisations)

² Area by county includes: Dublin (Dublin); Rest of Leinster (Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Longford, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath, Wexford and Wicklow); Munster (Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford); and Connacht (Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo) / Ulster (Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan).

2. Survey Findings

Please note that any differences between respondent groups alluded to in report commentary are statistically significant to at least the 95% Confidence Level.

2.1 Prevalence of being a victim and / or survivor of the Troubles / Conflict in Northern Ireland

Respondents were presented with the following definition of a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict in Northern Ireland:

Definition

Based in law, a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict in Northern Ireland is:

- (a) someone who is or has been physically or psychologically injured as a result of or in consequence of a conflict-related incident;
- (b) someone who provides a substantial amount of care on a regular basis for an individual mentioned in paragraph (a); or
- (c) someone who has been bereaved as a result of or in consequence of a conflict-related incident.

An individual may be psychologically injured as a result of, or in consequence of:

- (a) witnessing a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident; or
- (b) providing medical or other emergency assistance to an individual in connection with a conflict-related incident.

Respondents were then asked as someone living in the Republic of Ireland (i.e. the 26 counties and not Northern Ireland), if they meet the above legal definition of a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict.

Figure 1 shows that one in ten respondents (10%) said they meet the legal definition of a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict in Northern Ireland, 76% said they do not, and 14% were either undecided or had no opinion.

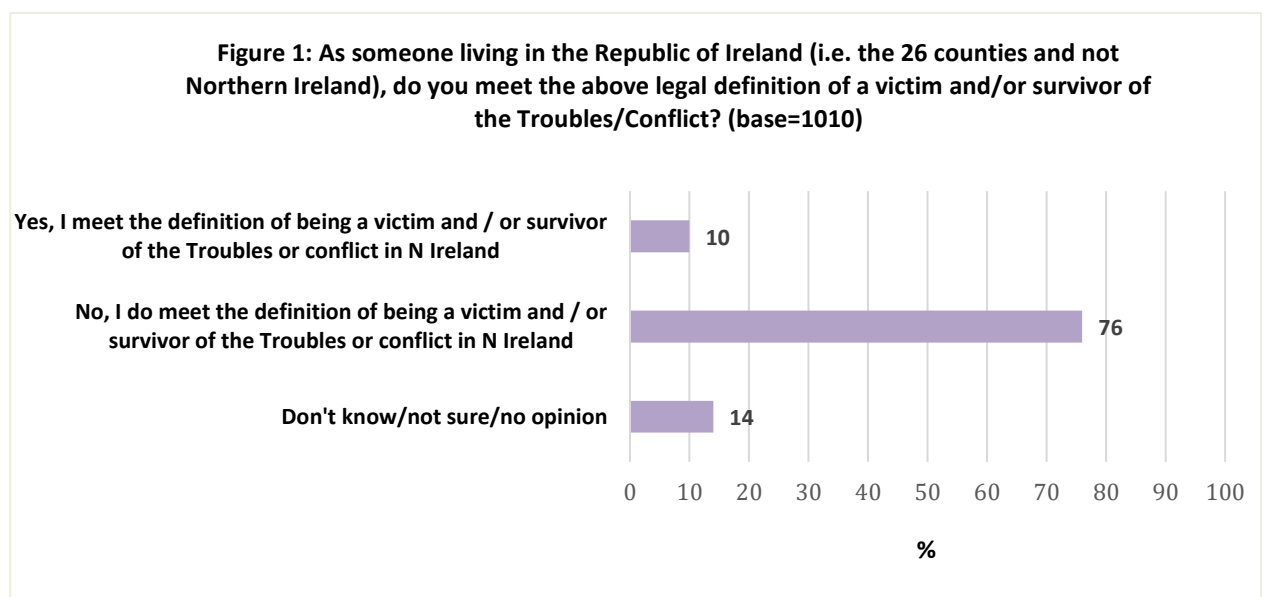


Table 2.1 presents a socio-demographic split in terms of meeting the legal definition of a victim or survivor.

Younger respondents compared with those in other age groups were more likely to say they meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor of the Troubles / Conflict (18-34, 20%: 35-59, 6%: 60+, 7%), with those with a disability (16%), compared with non-disabled respondents (7%), also more likely to say they meet the legal definition.

Although a greater proportion of respondents in lower social grades defined themselves as a victim and / or survivor (C2DE, 12% vs. ABC1, 9%), this group were also more likely to answer don't know, not sure or have no opinion (C2DE, 21% vs. ABC1, 9%). Those with a lower level of educational attainment³ were also more likely to answer don't know, not sure or have no opinion (low, 23%: medium, 15%: high, 11%)

Analysis by Province shows no significant difference in the proportion of respondents who said they meet the legal definition of a victim and/or survivor (Ulster, 14%: Connacht, 10%; Leinster, 12%: Munster, 7%). Although, a greater proportion of those living within five miles of the Border (16%) compared with other respondents (10%) said they meet the legal definition of a victim and/or survivor, this difference is not statistically significant.

		Meet the legal definition of victim or survivor?		
		Yes	No	Don't know / not sure / no opinion
Gender	Male	12	75	13
	Female	9	76	15
Age*	18-34	20	61	18
	35-59	6	80	14
	60+	7	83	10
Socio-economic group*	ABC1	9	82	9
	C2DE	12	67	21
Education*	Low	10	67	23
	Medium	9	75	15
	High	11	78	11
Disability*	Disabled	16	67	17
	Non-disabled	7	81	12
Province	Ulster	14	73	14
	Connacht	10	76	15
	Leinster	12	75	14
	Munster	7	78	15
Border	Live within 5 miles	16	71	13
	Don't live within 5 miles	10	76	14
*Statistically significant difference				

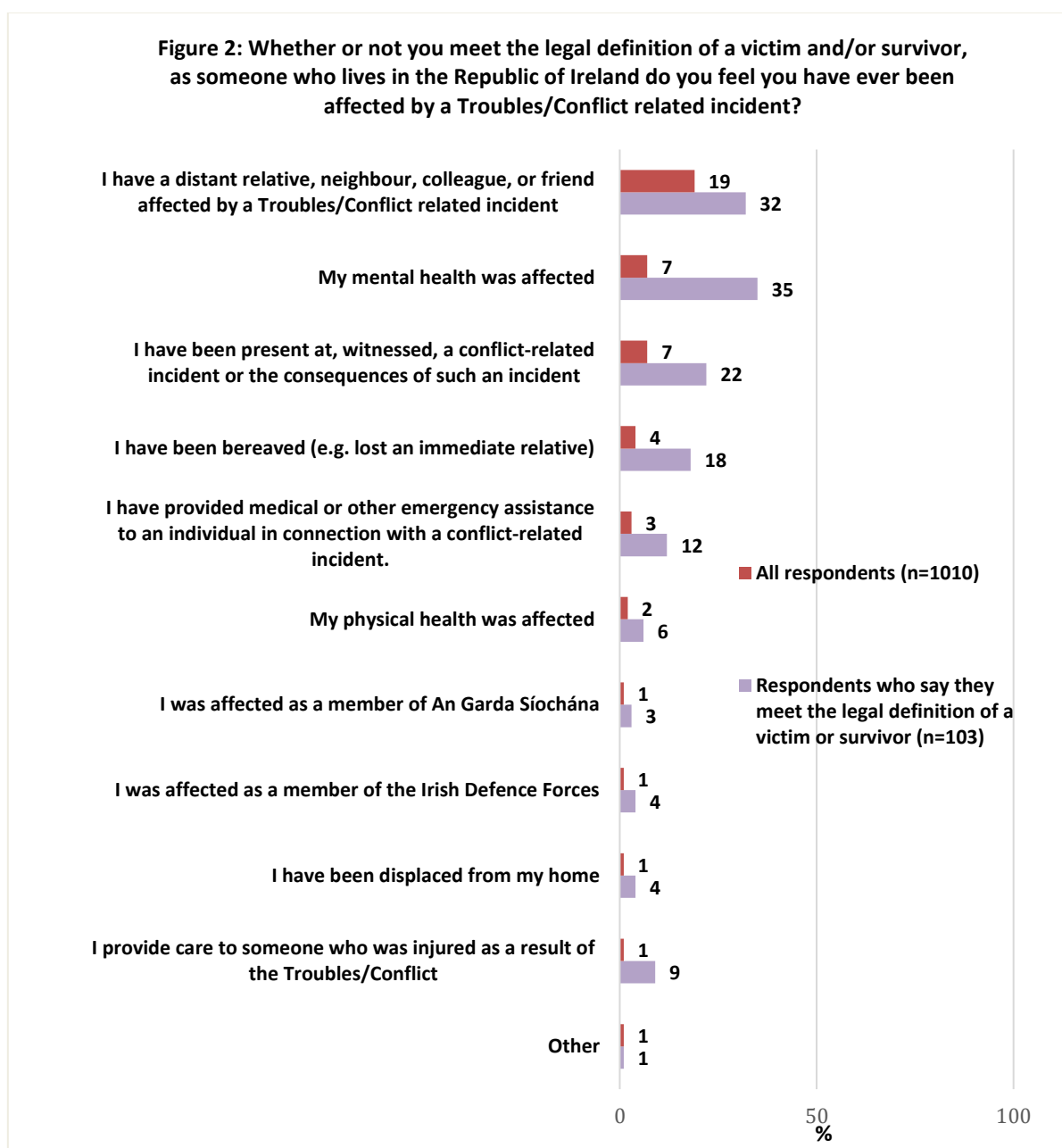
³ Education attainment level based on three categories: low (no formal education, primary education or lower Secondary [up to junior certificate or equivalent]); medium (upper secondary (up to leaving certificate or equivalent) or third Level diploma/ non-degree); and, high (third level).

2.2 Being affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident

Regardless of whether respondents believe they meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor, they were asked if they have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident [note that respondents were presented with a list of affects and asked to say if each applied to them with respondents able to select all or none of the affects].

Figure 2 shows that among all respondents (n=1010) almost one in five (19%) said they have a distant relative, neighbour, colleague, or friend affected by a Troubles/Conflict related incident. Seven percent (7%)⁴ of respondents said their mental health has been affected, with the same number (7%) saying they were present at, or witnessed, a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident.

Among those who believe they meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor (n=103), 32% said they have a distant relative, neighbour, colleague, or friend affected by a Troubles/Conflict related incident. Thirty five percent (35%) said their mental health has been affected, 22% said they were present at, or witnessed, a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident, and 18% said they have been bereaved.

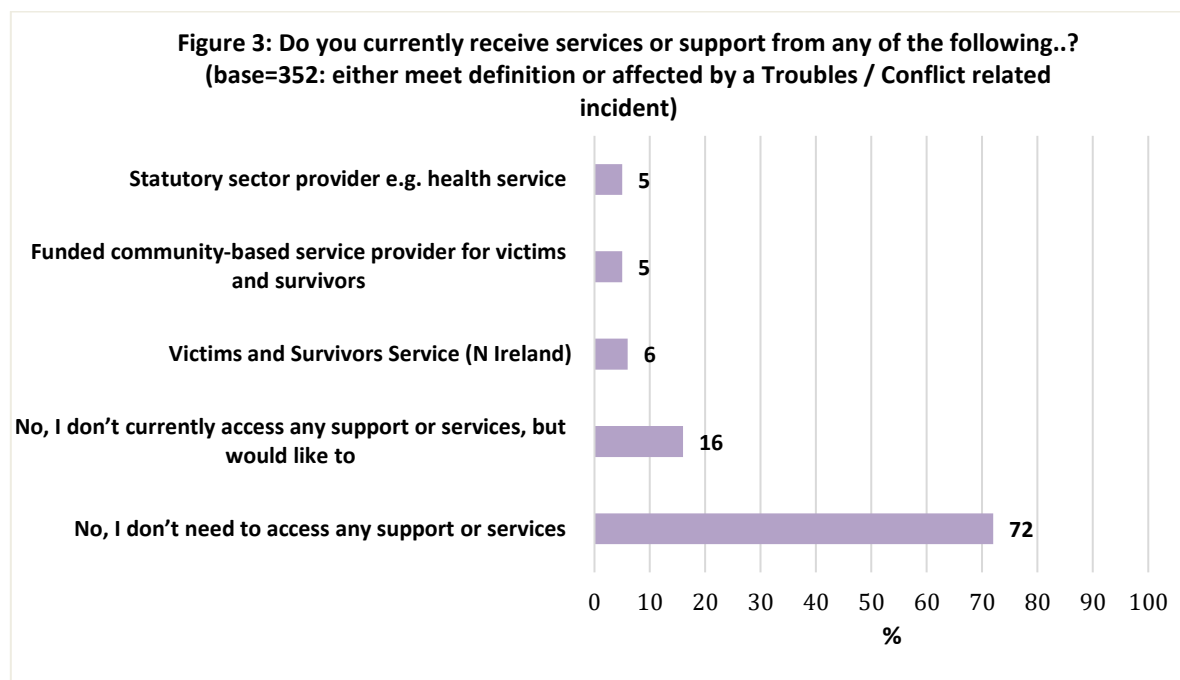


⁴ Note that this group (n=74) is split by: male (57%) female (43%): 18-34, 51%; 35-59, 38%; 60+, 11%; Ulster, 8%; Connacht, 11%, Leinster, 62%; Munster, 19%; live within 5 miles of the border, 11%, don't live within 5 miles of the border, 89%)

2.3 Receiving services or support

Respondents (n=352) who said they meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor, or who said they have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, were asked if they currently receive services or support from different sources.

Figure 3 shows that 5% of these respondents said they have received services or support from a statutory sector provider (e.g. health service), 5% have received services or support from a funded community-based service provider for victims and survivors, and 6% have received services or support from the Victims and Survivors Service (VSS) in Northern Ireland.



Sixteen percent (16%) of those who say they meet the definition of a victim and / or survivor, or who have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, said they don't currently access any support or services but would like to, with most (72%) saying they don't need to access any support or services.

Please note that 13% of those who say they meet the definition of a victim and / or survivor, or who have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, said they currently receive services or support from at least one of the sources listed in Figure 3.

Although not statistically significant, analysis by Province found that similar numbers in Connacht (18%), Leinster (17%) and Munster (17%) who say they meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor, or have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, said they don't currently access any support or services but would like to. This compares to 3% in Ulster. Also, among this group, those living 5 miles or more from the border compared with those living within 5 miles of the border were more likely to say they don't currently access any support or services but would like to (16% vs. 9%) [note that this difference is not statistically significant].

Analysis by Province found that similar number of those in Connacht (75%), Leinster (70%) and Munster (68%) who say they meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor, or have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, said they don't need to access any support or services. This compares to 87% in Ulster [difference not statistically significant]. Also, among this group, those living 5 miles or more from the border compared with those living within 5 miles of the border were less likely to say they don't need to access any support or services (71% vs. 78%) [note that this difference is not statistically significant].

Respondents who said their physical health has been affected as a result of being a victim and / or survivor, or who have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, were more likely to say they have used the following services: funded community based services for victims and survivors (10% vs. 4%); the services of a statutory sector

provider (15% vs. 5%); and Victim and Survivors Service Northern Ireland⁵ (20% vs. 5%). This group were also more likely to say they don't currently access services but would like to (20% vs. 15%), and were less likely to say they don't need to access support or services⁶ (40% vs. 74%).

Respondents who said their mental health has been affected as a result of being a victim and / or survivor, or who have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident, were more likely to say they have used the following services: funded community based services for victims and survivors⁷ (10% vs. 3%); the services of a statutory sector provider⁸ (11% vs. 4%); and Victim and Survivors Service Northern Ireland (10% vs. 5%). This group were also more likely to say they don't currently access services but would like to⁹ (32% vs. 11%) and less likely to say they don't need to access support or services¹⁰ (46% vs. 78%).

Name of organisations receiving services from

Respondents who indicated that they currently receive services or support from different sources were asked to list the name of the organisation they currently receive services from and these included:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ▪ Aim (n=1); | ▪ Counselling (n=1); | ▪ Counselling (n=1); |
| ▪ Alone (n=1); | ▪ Doctor (n=2); | ▪ Doctor (n=2); |
| ▪ Amnesty Ireland (n=1); | ▪ dole (n=2); | ▪ dole (n=2); |
| ▪ HSE (n=9); | ▪ Dublin (n=1); | ▪ Dublin (n=1); |
| ▪ Aware (n=1); | ▪ Goa (n=1); | ▪ Goa (n=1); |
| ▪ Calm (n=1); | ▪ Health Board (n=1); | ▪ Health Board (n=1); |
| ▪ Church (n=1); | ▪ helpline (n=1); | ▪ helpline (n=1); |
| ▪ community (n=1); | ▪ in station counselling group (n=1); | ▪ in station counselling group (n=1); |
| | ▪ mother (n=1); | ▪ mother (n=1); |

Reasons not currently receiving services or support among those who would like to receive services or support

The reasons why respondents who meet the legal definition of a victim and / or survivor or have been affected by a Troubles / Conflict related incident said they don't currently access any support or services are included in a verbatim basis in Appendix 2.

⁵ * Statistically significant

⁶ * Statistically significant

⁷ * Statistically significant

⁸ * Statistically significant

⁹ * Statistically significant

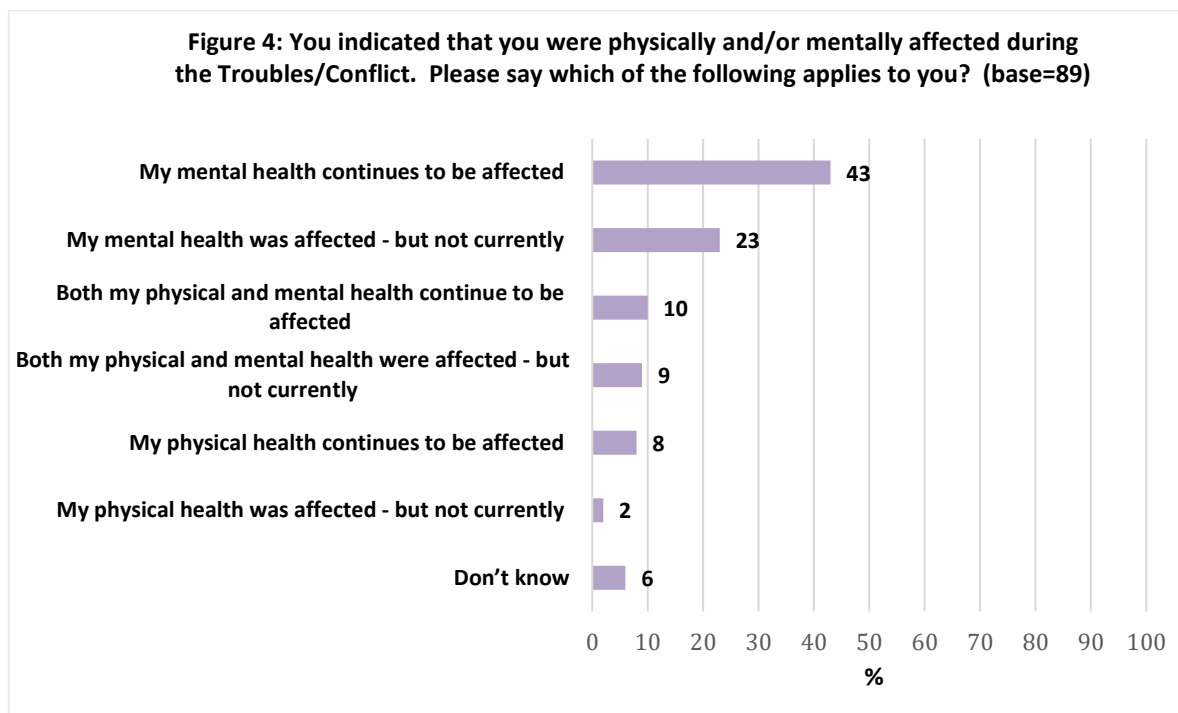
¹⁰ * Statistically significant

2.4 Affected physically and mentally by the Troubles / Conflict

Respondents (n=89) who indicated that they were physically and/or mentally affected during the Troubles/Conflict were asked about the impact of this.

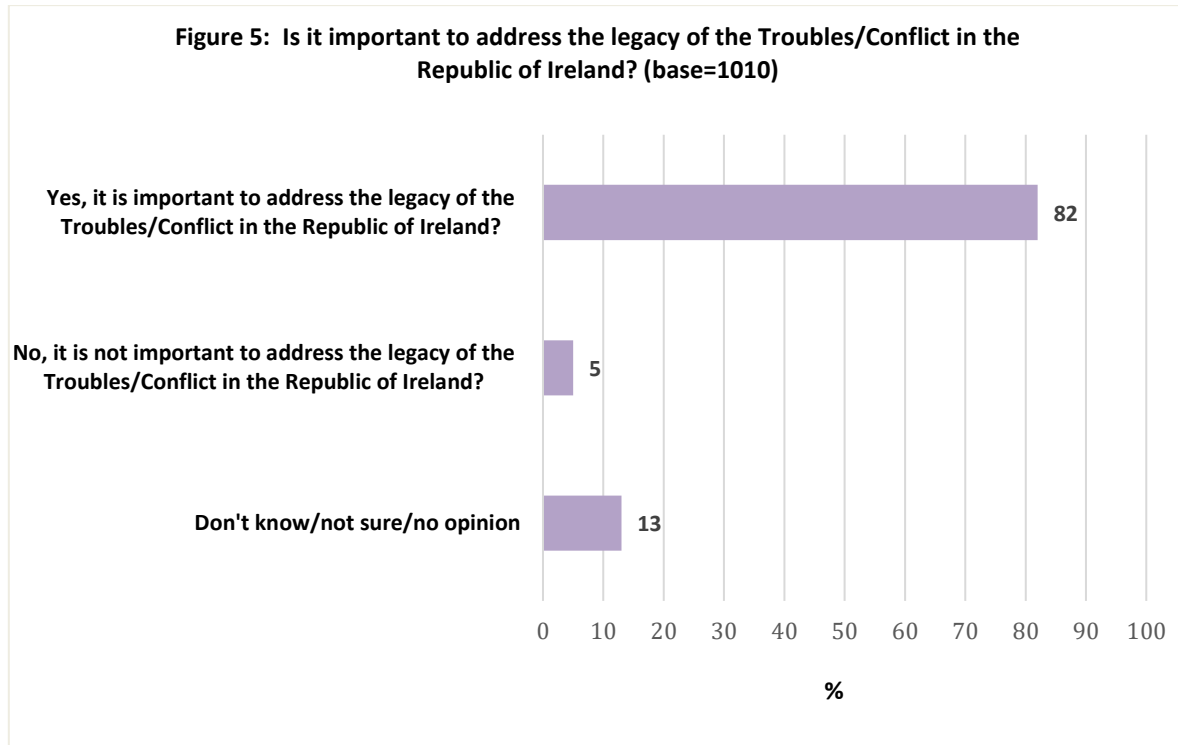
Figure 4 shows that 43% of these respondents said that their mental health continues to be affected, 23% said their mental health was affected and 10% said both their physical and mental health continues to be affected. Nine percent (9%) said both their physical and mental health was affected, but not currently. Eight percent (8%) said their physical health continues to be affected, with 2% saying their physical health was affected but not currently. Six percent were unsure.

Among these respondents (n=89), just over half (53%) said their mental health continues to be affected, with 18% saying their physical health continues to be affected (*note that 62% say either their mental or physical health continues to be affected*).



2.5 The importance of addressing the legacy of the Troubles / Conflict in the Republic of Ireland

Approximately eight out of ten (82%) respondents believe that it is important to address the legacy of the Troubles/Conflict in the Republic of Ireland, and 5% say it is not. Fourteen percent (14%) were undecided or had no opinion.

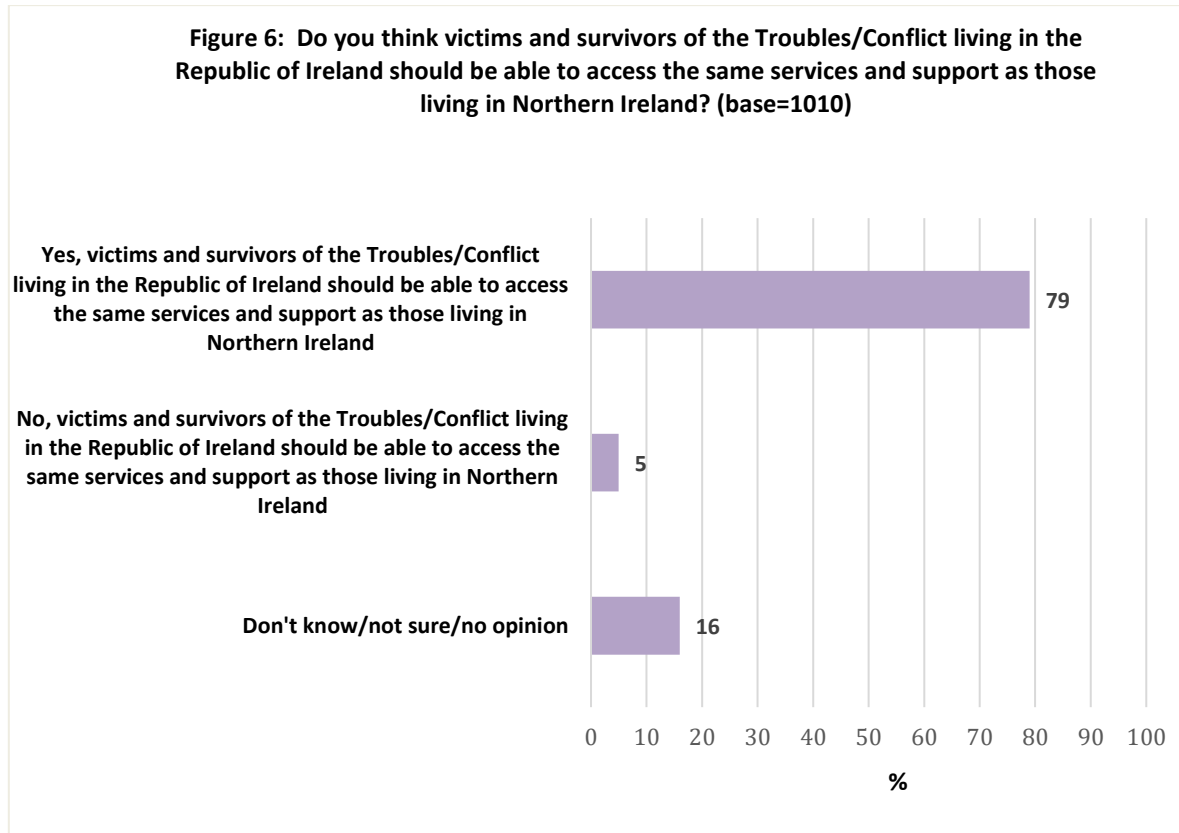


Statistically Significant Differences between Respondent Groups

- Although similar numbers of men (83%) and women (81%) believe it is important to address the legacy of the Troubles/Conflict in the Republic of Ireland, proportionately more women answered don't know, not sure or had no opinion (16% vs. 11%)
- In terms of age, those aged 35-59 compared with those in other age groups were more likely to say it is important to address the legacy of the Troubles/Conflict in the Republic of Ireland (18-34, 80%: 35-59, 83%: 60+, 81%), whereas those aged 60+ compared with those in other age groups were more likely to say that it is not important (18-34, 5%: 35-59, 3%: 60+, 9%) [note that those aged under 60 were more likely to have answered don't know, not sure or had no opinion (18-34, 15%: 35-59, 14%: 60+, 10%)]

2.6 Victims and survivors of the Troubles / Conflict accessing services in the Republic of Ireland

Most respondents (79%) support the view that victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict living in the Republic of Ireland should be able to access the same services and support as those living in Northern Ireland, 5% said they should not, and 16% were either undecided or had no opinion.



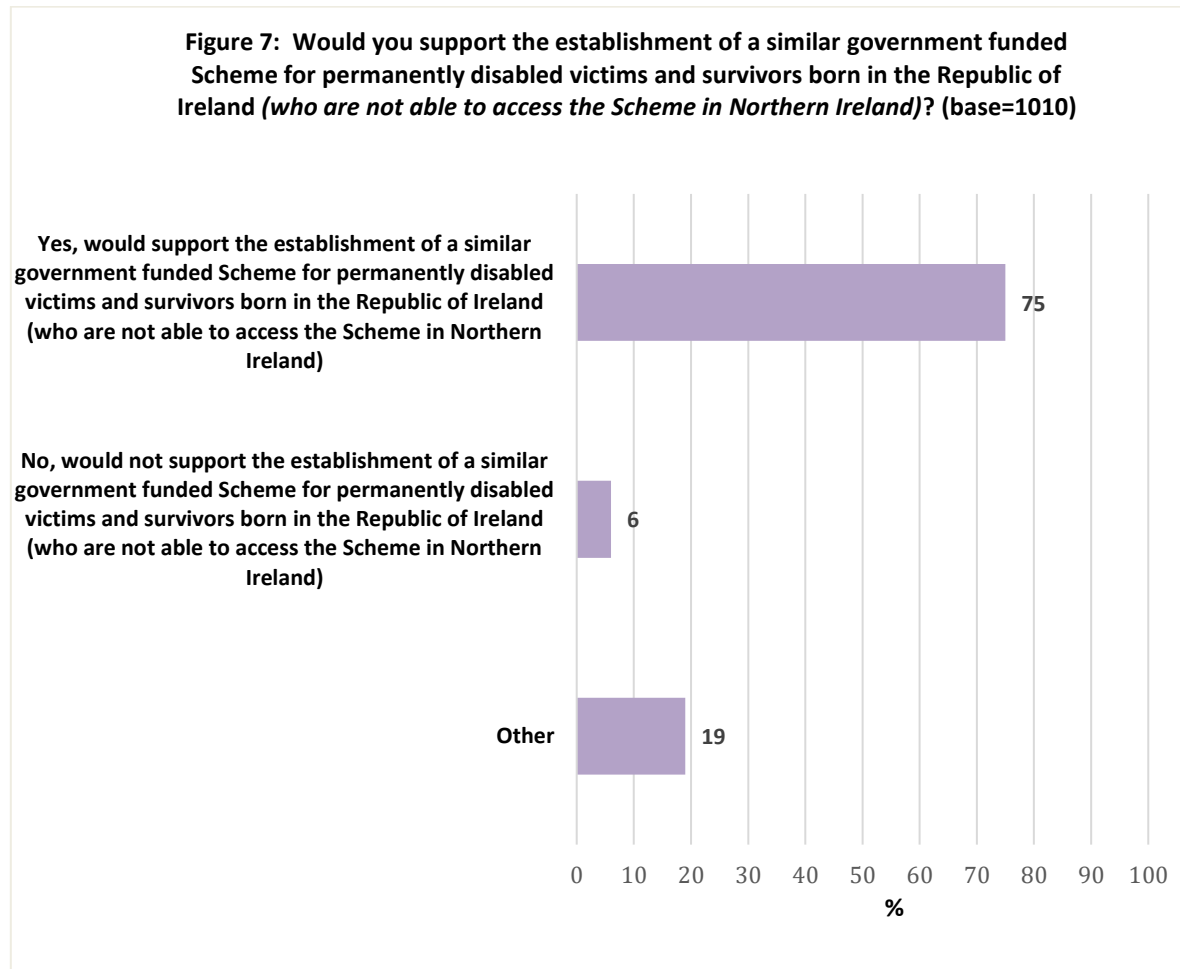
Statistically Significant Differences between Respondent Groups

- Those living in Ulster were more likely to believe that victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict living in the Republic of Ireland should be able to access the same services and support as those living in Northern Ireland (Ulster, 93%: Connacht, 77%: Leinster, 76%: Munster, 83%)
- Those who believe they meet the legal definition of being a victim and / or survivor were more likely to believe that victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict living in the Republic of Ireland should be able to access the same services and support as those living in Northern Ireland (84% vs. 79%)

2.7 The 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme'

The 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme' awards payments to permanently physically and psychologically injured victims and survivors of the Troubles born in the UK including Northern Ireland.

Given this information, respondents were then asked if they would support the establishment of a similar government funded scheme for permanently disabled victims and survivors born in the Republic of Ireland (*who are not able to access the Scheme in Northern Ireland*), with 75% supportive, 6% unsupportive, and 19% either undecided or having no opinion (Figure 7).

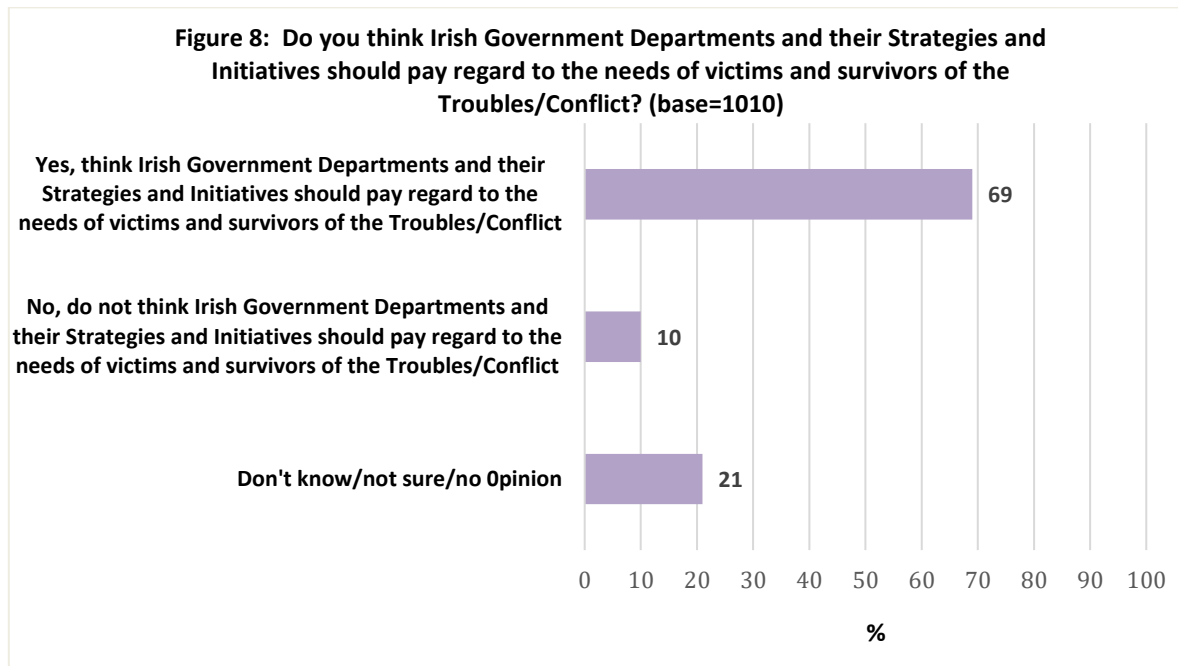


Statistically Significant Differences between Respondent Groups

- Although relatively small numbers, older respondents were proportionately more likely to say they do not support a 'Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme' for permanently disabled victims and survivors born in the Republic of Ireland (18-34, 4%: 35-59, 6%: 60+, 10%), whereas those aged under 60 were proportionately more likely to be undecided or have no opinion (18-34, 21%: 35-59, 20%: 60+, 14%)

2.8 Irish Government paying regard to the needs of victims and / or survivors of the Troubles / Conflict

Figure 8 shows that almost seven out of ten (69%) respondents think that Irish Government Departments and their strategies and initiatives should pay regard to the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict, 10% do not, and 21% were undecided or had no opinion.

**Statistically Significant Differences between Respondent Groups**

- Those who believe they meet the legal definition of being a victim and / or survivor, compared with those who do not, were more likely to say Irish Government Departments and their strategies and initiatives should pay regard to the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict (81% vs. 68%)

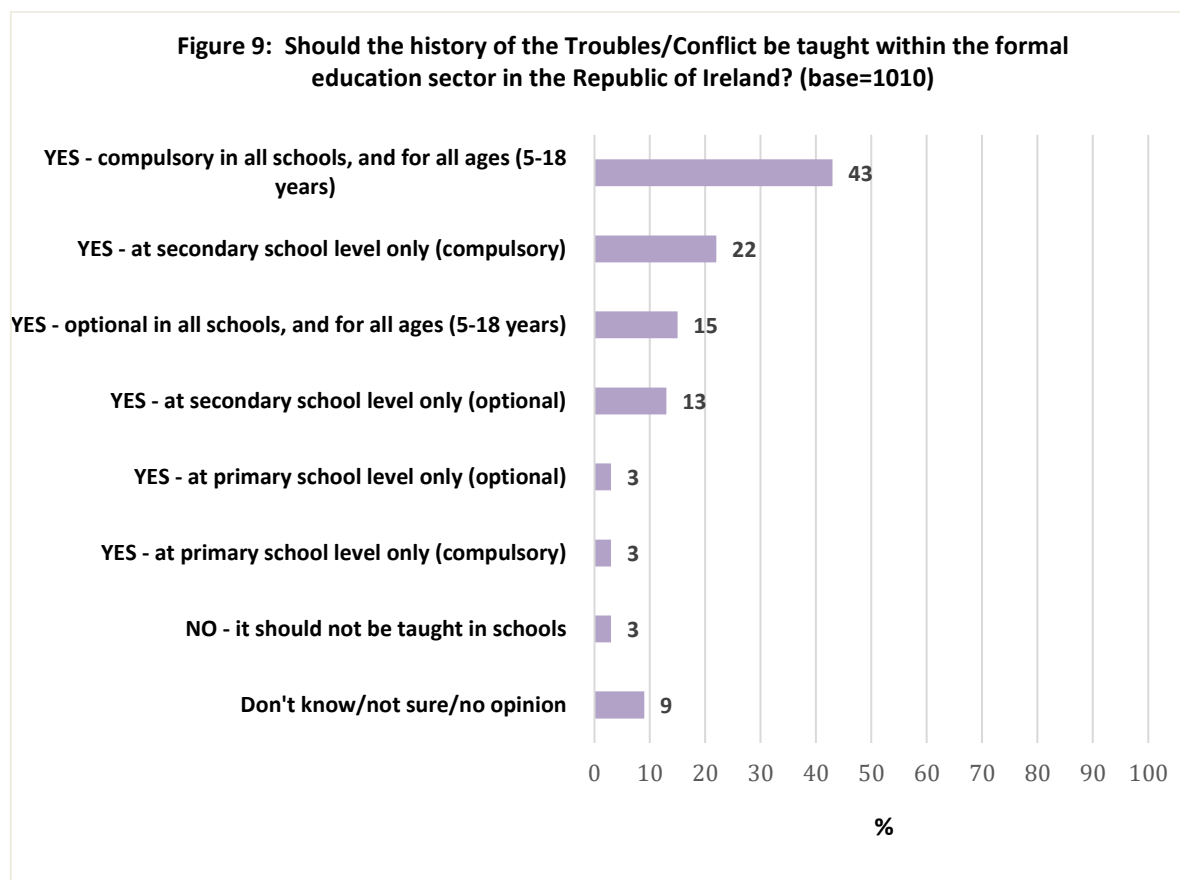
2.9 Teaching the history of the Troubles in schools

Respondents were asked if the history of the Troubles/Conflict should be taught within the formal education sector in the Republic of Ireland.

Figure 9 shows that 43% of all respondents believe the teaching of the history of the Troubles/Conflict should be compulsory in all schools and for all ages (5-18), with 22% saying it should be compulsory at secondary school level only.

Fifteen percent believe the teaching of the history of the Troubles/Conflict should be optional in all schools and for all ages (5-18), 13% believe that it should be optional at secondary level only, 3% believe that it should be optional at primary school level only, and 3% believe it should be compulsory at primary school level only.

Just 3% said that the history of the Troubles/Conflict should not be taught in schools in the Republic of Ireland, with 9% undecided or having no opinion.

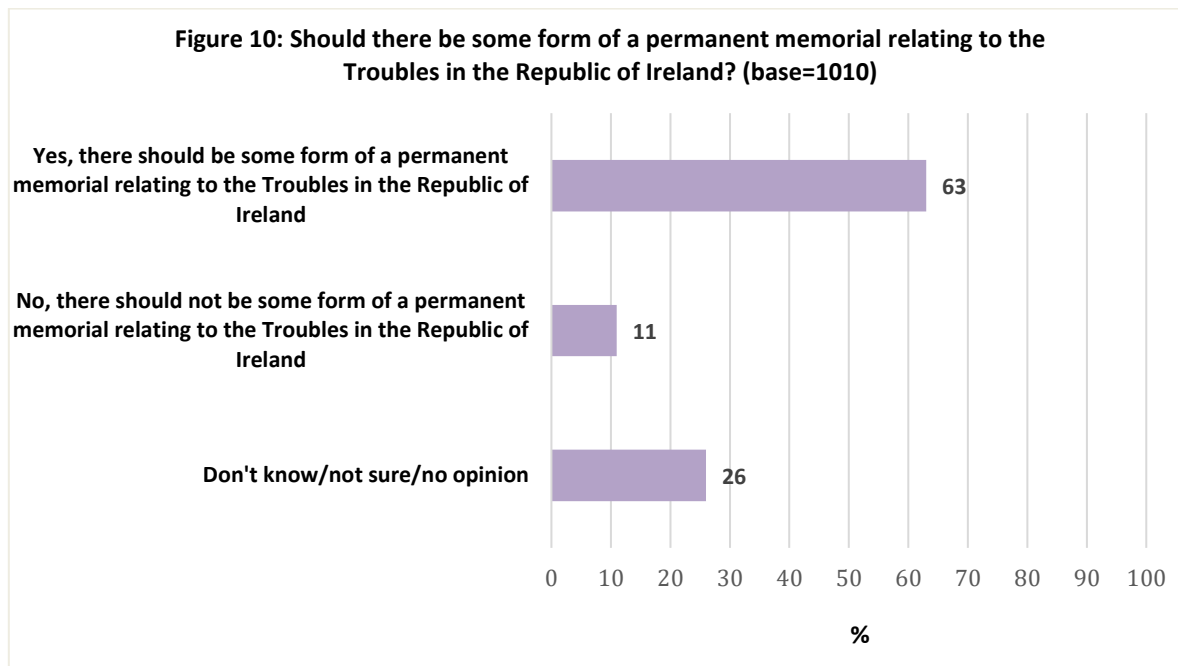


Statistically Significant Differences between Respondent Groups

- Women (46%) compared with men (39%) were more likely to say teaching the history of the Troubles/Conflict should be compulsory in all schools and for all ages (5-18)
- Younger respondents compared with those in other age groups were more likely to be supportive of teaching the history of the Troubles/Conflict should be compulsory in all schools and for all ages (5-18) [18-34, 48%; 35-59, 45%; 60+, 34%]

2.10 Support for a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles / Conflict in the Republic of Ireland

Approximately six out of ten (63%) respondents said there should be some form of a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles in the Republic of Ireland, 11% said there should not, and 26% were undecided or had no opinion.



Statistically Significant Differences between Respondent Groups

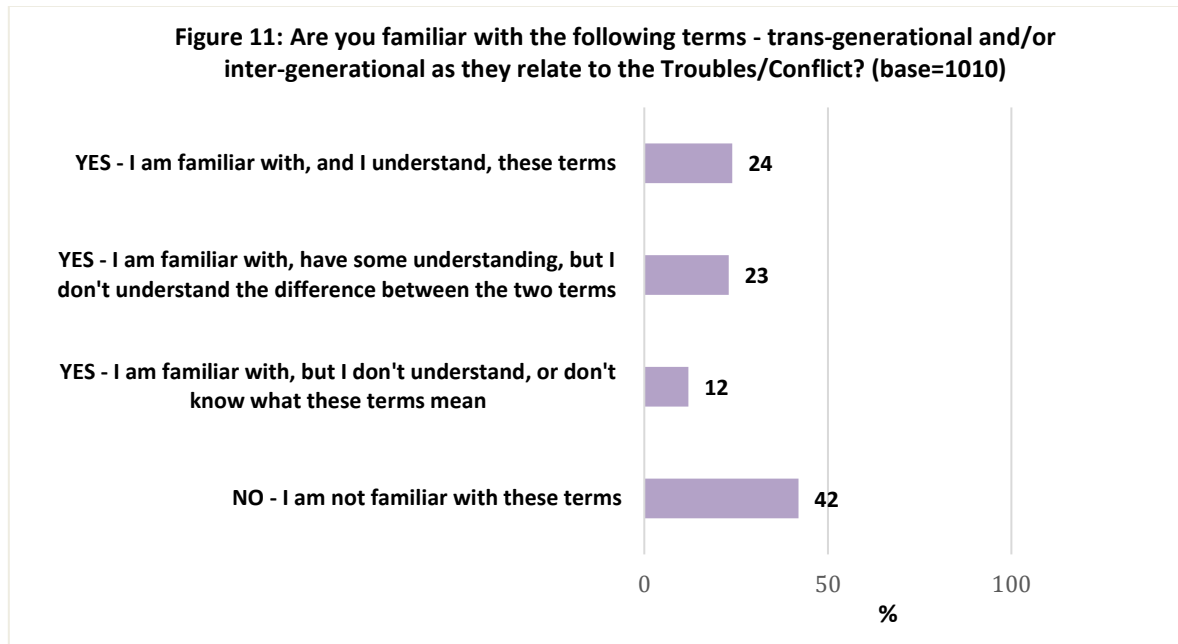
- Younger respondents compared with those in other age groups were more likely to be supportive of some form of a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles in the Republic of Ireland (18-34, 68%; 35-59, 64%; 60+, 55%)
- Those who believe they meet the legal definition of being a victim and / or survivor, compared with those who do not, were more likely to be supportive of some form of a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles in the Republic of Ireland (80% vs. 61%)

2.11 Familiarity with terms trans-generational and/or inter-generational as they relate to the Troubles/Conflict

Figure 11 shows that 24% of respondents said they are familiar with, and understand, the terms ‘trans-generational’ and/or ‘inter-generational’ as they relate to the Troubles/Conflict.

A similar number (23%) said they are familiar with the terms, have some understanding of the terms, but don’t know the difference between the two terms.

Twelve percent said they are familiar with the terms but don’t understand or know what the terms mean, with 42% saying they are not familiar with the terms ‘trans-generational’ and/or ‘inter-generational’.



Statistically Significant Differences between Respondent Groups

Those **more likely to say they are familiar with the terms trans-generational and/or inter-generational as they relate to the Troubles/Conflict** included:

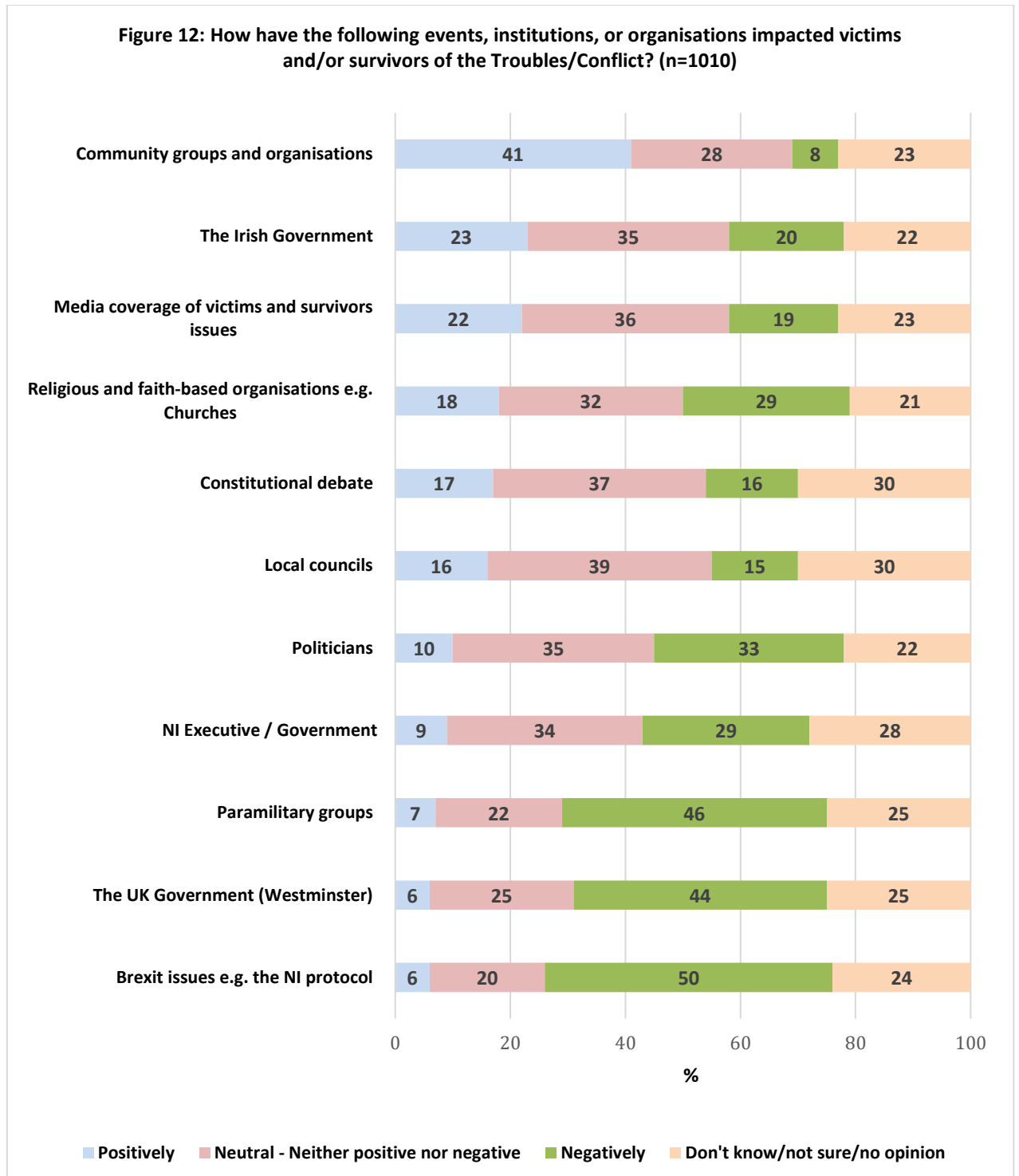
- Younger respondents compared with those in other age groups (18-34, 64%: 35-59, 57%: 60+, 53%)
- Those with a disability (64%) compared with non-disabled respondents (54%)
- Those who believe they meet the legal definition of being a victim and / or survivor (74%) compared with those who do not (56%)

2.12 Views on how events, institutions or organisations have impacted on victims and / or survivors

Respondents were asked how different events, institutions, or organisations impacted victims and / or survivors of the Troubles/Conflict.

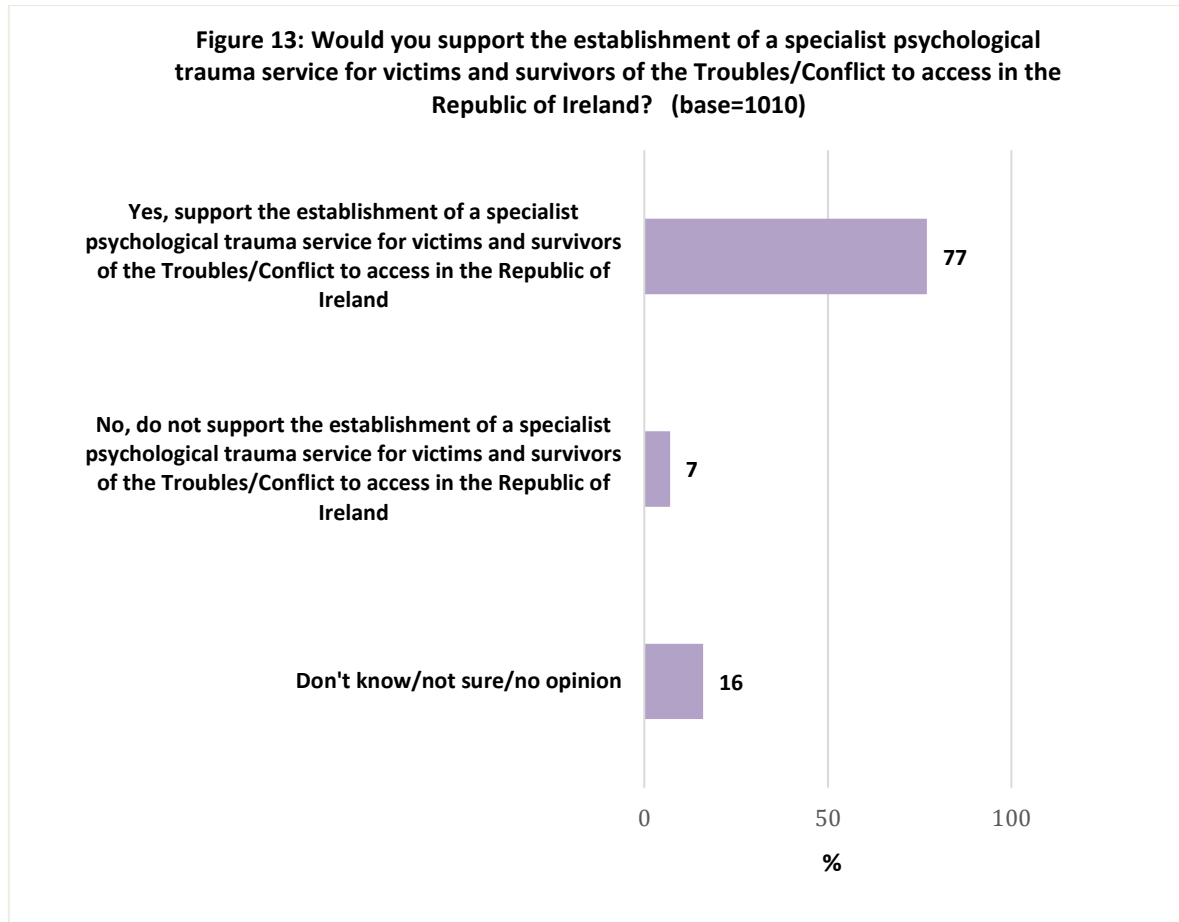
Figure 12 shows that 41% of respondents believe that community groups and organisations have positively impacted victims and / or survivors, with similar numbers supporting the view that the Irish Government (23%), and media coverage of victims and survivors issues (22%), have positively impacted victims and/or survivors.

In contrast, 50% believe that Brexit issues (e.g. NI Protocol) have negatively impacted victims and/or survivors, with similar numbers saying that the UK Government (44%), and paramilitaries (46%), have negatively impacted victims and/or survivors.



2.13 Support for the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and / or survivors

Figure 13 shows that approximately three out of four (77%) respondents said they would support the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict to access in the Republic of Ireland, with 7% unsupportive, and 16% either undecided or having no opinion.



Statistically Significant Differences between Respondent Groups

Those more likely to support the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict to access in the Republic of Ireland included:

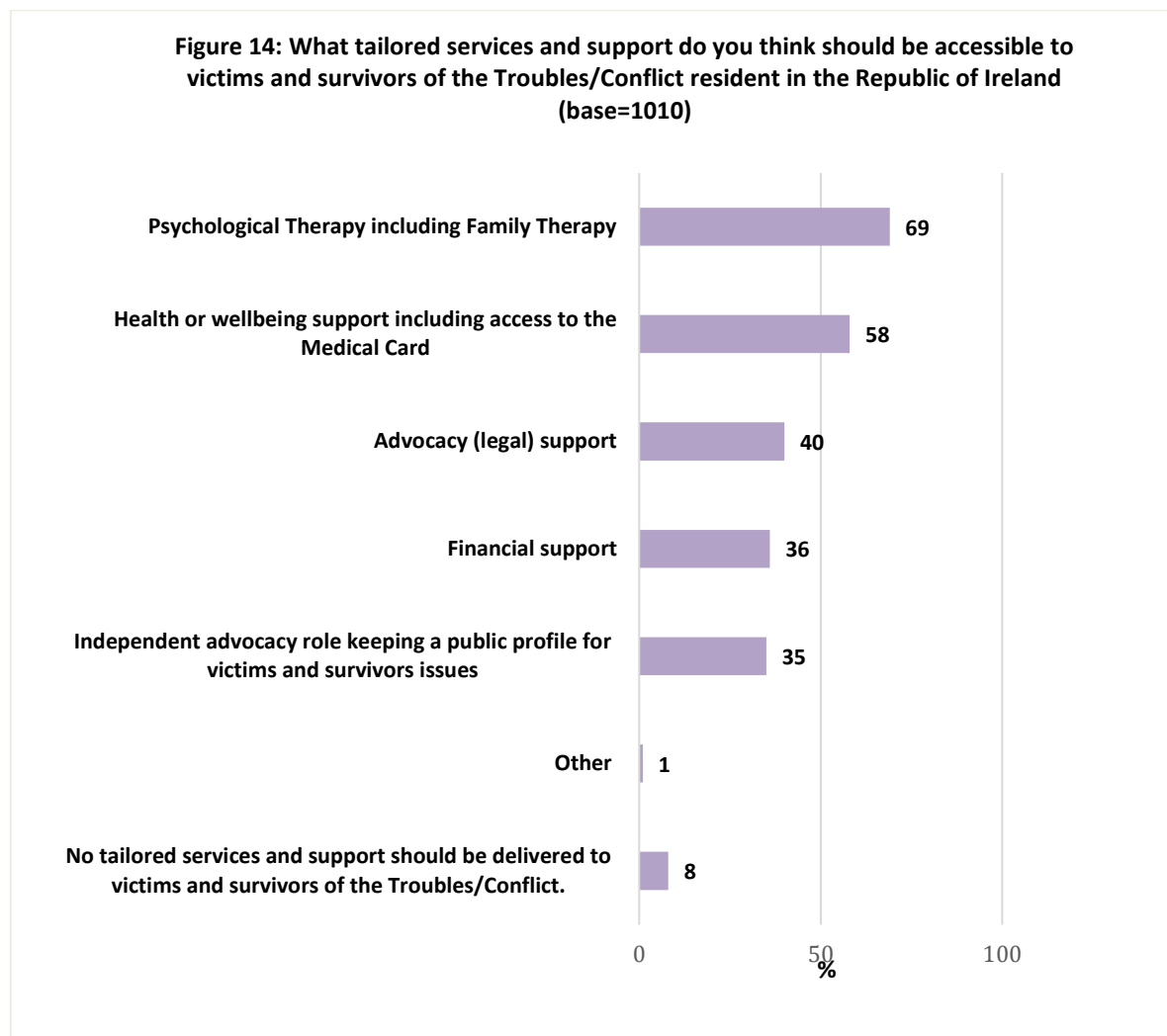
- Younger respondents compared with those in other age groups (18-34, 80%: 35-59, 77%: 60+, 72%)
- Those in higher social grades (ABC1, 78%) compared to those in lower social grades (C2DE, 75%)
- Those with a higher level of educational attainment (low, 69%: medium, 77%: high, 79%)
- Those who believe they meet the legal definition of being a victim and / or survivor (87%) compared to those who do not (76%)

2.14 Services and support that should be accessible for victims and / or survivors

Respondents were asked what tailored services and support they think should be accessible to victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict resident in the Republic of Ireland.

Figure 14 shows that a majority of respondents believe that that psychological therapy including family therapy (69%), and health or wellbeing support including access to the medical card (58%), should be accessible to victims and survivors.

Four out of ten (40%) respondents said that advocacy (legal) support should be accessible to victims and survivors, 36% said financial support should be accessible, and 35% said that there should be an independent advocacy role keeping a public profile for victims and survivors issues. One percent of respondents provided other¹¹ responses, with 8% of the view that no tailored services and support should be delivered to victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict.



2.15 Final comments

At the end of the survey respondents were provided with an opportunity to offer additional views or comments about the survey, and/or policies regarding victims, survivors etc. These comments have been included on a verbatim basis in Appendix 2.

¹¹ Included: don't know (n=7); this should be funded by the UK /N Ireland Executive and not the Irish tax payer (n=1); this is Northern Ireland so the UK should be responsible and not the Irish Government though seems South have probably done more than UK so far (n=1).

Appendix 1 (Questionnaire)



QUESTIONNAIRE

[FINAL]

9 March 2023



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The following questions relate to issues related to victims and /or survivors of the Troubles / Conflict in Northern Ireland.

Q1. Based in law, a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict in Northern Ireland is:

- (a) someone who is or has been physically or psychologically injured as a result of or in consequence of a conflict-related incident;
- (b) someone who provides a substantial amount of care on a regular basis for an individual mentioned in paragraph (a); or
- (c) someone who has been bereaved as a result of or in consequence of a conflict-related incident.

An individual may be psychologically injured as a result of, or in consequence of:

- (d) witnessing a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident; or
- (b) providing medical or other emergency assistance to an individual in connection with a conflict-related incident.

As someone living in the Republic of Ireland (i.e. the 26 counties and not Northern Ireland), do you meet the above legal definition of a victim and/or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict? (Select one only)

Yes	1
No	2
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	3

Q2. Whether or not you meet the legal definition of a victim (as referenced in Question 1), as someone who lives in the Republic of Ireland do you feel you have ever been affected by a Troubles/Conflict related incident? (Select all that apply)

I have been bereaved (e.g. lost an immediate relative)	1
I have provided medical or other emergency assistance to an individual in connection with a conflict-related incident.	2
I have been present at, witnessed, a conflict-related incident or the consequences of such an incident	3
I provide care to someone who was injured as a result of the Troubles/Conflict	4
My physical health was affected	5
My mental health was affected	6
I have been displaced from my home	7
I have a distant relative, neighbour, colleague, or friend affected by a Troubles/Conflict related incident	8
I was affected as a member of the Irish Defence Forces	9
I was affected as a member of An Garda Síochána	10
None of the above	11
Other (please specify)	12

ASK IF Q1 EQ 1 OR Q2 NE 11

Q3. You have indicated from your answers to the previous questions, that you are (or may be) a victim or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict. As such, do you currently receive services or support from any of the following? (Multi code)

Funded community-based service provider for victims and survivors	1
Statutory sector provider e.g. health service	2
Victims and Survivors Service (N Ireland)	3
No, I don't currently access any support or services, but would like to	4
No, I don't need to access any support or services	5
Other (please specify)	6

ASK IF Q3 NE 4 OR 5

Q3a. Please list the name of the organisation (s) you currently receive services or support from.

--

ASK IF Q3 EQ 4

Q4. Even though you are (or may be) a victim or survivor of the Troubles/Conflict, you say you don't currently receive any services or support, but would like to. Why is this? (e.g. have you received the correct information about services etc.)?

--

ASK IF Q2 EQ 5 OR 6

Q5. You indicated that you were physically and/or mentally affected during the Troubles/Conflict. Please say which of the following applies to you? (Select one only)

My physical health continues to be affected	1
My mental health continues to be affected	2
Both my physical and mental health continue to be affected	3
My physical health was affected - but not currently	4
My mental health was affected - but not currently	5
Both my physical and mental health were affected - but not currently	6
Don't know	7

PLEASE NOTE THAT A LIST OF SUPPORT SERVICES IS INCLUDED AT THE END OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Q6. Is it important to address the legacy of the Troubles/Conflict in Ireland? (Select one only)

Yes	1
No	2
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	3

Q7. Do you think victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict living in the Republic of Ireland should be able to access the same services and support as those living in Northern Ireland? (Select one only)

Yes	1
No	2
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	3

Q8. The '*Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment*' Scheme awards payments to permanently physically and psychologically injured victims and survivors of the Troubles born in the UK including Northern Ireland.

Would you support the establishment of a similar government funded Scheme for permanently disabled victims and survivors born in the Republic of Ireland (*who are not able to access the Scheme in Northern Ireland*)? (Select one only)

Yes	1
No	2
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	3

Q9. Do you think Irish Government Departments and their Strategies and Initiatives should pay regard to the needs of victims and survivors of the Troubles? (Select one only)

Yes	1
No	2
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	3

Q10. Should the history of the Troubles/Conflict be taught within the formal education sector in the Republic of Ireland? (Select all that apply)

YES - compulsory in all schools, and for all ages (5-18 years)	1
YES - optional in all schools, and for all ages (5-18 years)	2
YES - at primary school level only (compulsory)	3
YES - at primary school level only (optional)	4
YES - at secondary school level only (compulsory)	5
YES - at secondary school level only (optional)	6
NO - it should not be taught in schools	7
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	8

Q11. Should there be some form of a permanent memorial relating to the Troubles in the Republic of Ireland? (Select one only)

Yes	1
No	2
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	3

Q12. Are you familiar with the following terms - trans-generational and/or inter-generational as they relate to the Troubles/Conflict? (Select one only)

YES - I am familiar with, and I understand, these terms	1
YES - I am familiar with, have some understanding, but I don't understand the difference between the two terms	2
YES - I am familiar with, but I don't understand, or don't know what these terms mean	3
NO - I am not familiar with these terms	4

Q13. How have the following events, institutions, or organisations impacted victims and/or survivors of the Troubles/Conflict?

Positively	1
Neutral - Neither positive nor negative	2
Negatively	3
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	4

ITEMS RANDOMLY DISPLAYED

1	Brexit issues e.g. the NI protocol
2	Media coverage of victims and survivors issues
3	Community groups and organisations
4	Religious and faith-based organisations e.g. Churches
5	The Irish Government
6	The UK Government (Westminster)
7	NI Executive / Government
8	Constitutional debate
9	Paramilitary groups
10	Politicians
11	Local councils

Q14. Would you support the establishment of a specialist psychological trauma service for victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict to access in the Republic of Ireland?

Yes	1
No	2
Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion	3

Q15. What tailored services and support do you think should be accessible to victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict resident in the Republic of Ireland? Please tick all that apply.

Health or wellbeing support including access to the Medical Card	1
Advocacy (legal) support	2
Independent advocacy role keeping a public profile for victims and survivors issues	3
Financial support	4
Psychological Therapy including Family Therapy	5
Other (please specify)	6
No tailored services and support should be delivered to victims and survivors of the Troubles/Conflict.	7

Q16. Have you any additional views or comments about this poll-survey, and/or policies regarding victims, survivors, etc.? [If no comments - please leave blank]

Section B: About You

B1. Are you...? (Single Code)

Male	1
Female	2
Other (please specify)	3

B2. What age are you? INTERVIEWER RECORD AGE:

B3. Which of the following defines your employment position? Single Code

Higher managerial, administrative or professional	1
Intermediate managerial, administrative or professional	2
Supervisory or clerical and junior managerial, administrative or professional	3
Skilled manual worker	4
Semi-skilled and unskilled manual worker	5
State pensioner, casual worker, or unemployed with state benefits only	6

B4. Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted or is expected to last, at least 12 months? Include problems which are due to ageing. (Single Code)

Yes, limited a lot	1
Yes, limited a little	2
No	3
Prefer not to say	9

B5. Which of the following best describes your level of education? [IF STILL STUDYING: Which level best describes your level of education you obtained until now? (Single code)

Primary	1
Secondary	2
Junior cert (inter cert)	3
Leaving cert	4
Degree (B.Sc., B.A., etc)	5
Post- Graduate Education (M.A., Ph.D., etc)	6

B6. Which county do you live in? (Single Code)

Carlow	1
Cavan	2
Clare	3
Cork	4
Donegal	5
Dublin	6
Galway	7
Kerry	8
Kildare	9
Kilkenny	10
Laois	11
Leitrim	12
Limerick	13
Longford	14
Louth	15
Mayo	16
Meath	17
Monaghan	18
Offaly	19
Roscommon	20
Sligo	21
Tipperary	22
Waterford	23
Westmeath	24
Wexford	25
Wicklow	26

B7. What type of area do you live in? (Select one only)

City	1
A town	2
A village	3
Rural or countryside	4

B8. Finally, do you live within 5 miles of the Ireland and N Ireland border?

Yes	1
No	2

Should you have been affected by any of the issues raised in this survey you can access help and support from the Victims and Survivors Service in Northern Ireland (0044 2890 279100) and Samaritans Ireland: 116 123.

THANK AND CLOSE

Appendix 2 (Additional comments)

Reasons not accessed services

- bad memories (n=1);
- because I feel sympathy (n=1);
- because I have turned to drinking and it has impacted my life (n=1);
- do not know what I am entitled to (n=1);
- don't know what services are available to me (n=1);
- don't want help (n=1);
- expensive to get counselling (n=1);
- I access other services (n=1);
- I didn't know it existed (n=1);
- I don't know nothing (n=1);
- I don't know (n=1);
- I don't know how to access these support services (n=1);
- I don't want to brag about it (n=1);
- I feel that they are more harmful than good (n=1);
- I had no chances to access one yet (n=1);
- I have not received information about such services (n=1);
- I haven't received the correct information (n=1);
- I have no idea how to apply for such services; I need to find the right team (n=1);
- I never knew about it (n=1); I
- try to support myself with help of family (n=1);
- I was a cashier and I was attacked during a hold-up 3 times; once with a gun, knife and a baby gun. The only things I remember after the fight. I was just called to the Garda for recreating the incident. No other services were provided. (n=1);
- I was forgotten about (n=1);
- I was not aware of help available (n=1);
- I'm ok (n=1);
- In my family we are all about men should not be whining (n=1);
- It would be nice (n=1);
- losing a relative without understanding why (n=1);
- mental issues cannot be treated without the intervention of medical pathways or group of support. Very helpful (n=1);
- never approached about it (n=1);
- no (n=1);
- no services were offered to me ever (n=1);
- no time (n=1);
- none available (n=1);
- not enough information to follow (n=1);
- not enough services (n=1); not sure (n=1);
- our country didn't provide a proper service (n=1);
- really now residing in the South and have not received any information in relation to this as possibly this is not a priority by authorities here in the South where such information is not widely available if at all (n=1);
- services in Ireland have massive waiting lists (n=1);
- someone I know was harmed in the Troubles (n=1);
- there is so little mental health support available in this country in general; it is shocking (n=1);
- there isn't any available in my area (n=1);
- to help with mental health (n=1);
- too difficult until now (n=1);
- worked in London during the troubles in 80s, lots of bomb alerts. Bomb in Liverpool St where I worked. Knew lots if people from Northern Ireland (n=1); and,
- you have to pay and I don't have enough money (n=1).

Further comments from respondents

- A full judicial inquiry into the Dublin-Monaghan bombings and the bomb attack on the Miami showband
- All should be done to help all victims in this area
- All victims and survivors of the troubles should be remembered in the Republic
- All victims on any side republican/loyalist/police/military/terrorist should be included in schemes
- As long as the UK continues to refer to our leaders of 1916 as terrorists we will always have a solid barrier between ROI and the UK
- As a result of the troubles all the people of Northern Ireland should be brought together and let solve their own problems while the U.K. and Irish governments stand back a little.
- Everyone involved directly or indirectly with the troubles needs help
- Fair and unbiased media reporting on the troubles
- Full history should be taught
- Hard to please both sides of community when both still blame the other
- Help should be provided if needed but I am totally against giving compensation in lump sums of money to anyone
- I believe that the legacy of the Troubles/Conflict will not be resolved for another 25 years or so when peace and prosperity are the only norm and most if not all those directly involved will have died.
- I do like this survey a lot. It can help me to learn so much from it
- I don't know
- I enjoyed it as if was something completely different and got me thinking
- I enjoyed taking part in this very serious survey.
- I found the section of NI Conflict/victims difficult to evaluate as I have not been directly affected. I hope my responses will be accepted as such.
- I hope this survey helps improving the lives of the victims. We must learn from the past and treat the victims of it
- I lived and studied in Derry/Londonderry for 5 years. I heard the explosion at the army barracks which killed six people. If I remember correctly, a local man was ordered to drive a van packed with explosives to the barracks and then set it off, killing him and numerous soldiers, many people were horrified that this businessman was put in the situation, the same horror was not portrayed to the soldiers, the sound of the explosion is something I will remember for the rest of my life.
- I loved it.
- I think it's time to move on. Support those affected but don't perpetuate the cycle.
- I think kids learning about the troubles is extremely important. How can you learn from the past if you try to do a Florida and pretend it never happened
- I think people affected by the troubles need help throughout life regardless where they reside

- I think perhaps the Republic of Ireland should address other issues such as Mother and Baby Homes scandal first. Any legacy or victim support from the troubles should also be funded by the English government as their actions have contributed to the Troubles.
- I think the troubles should be left behind and stop bringing them up again .There are a lot of people waiting to take advantage of a bad situation
- I think things between North and South (the Gardaí and PSNI) are better now. In the past when the RUC were the police in Northern Ireland things were very bad. An Irish showband called the Miami were ambushed after playing at a dance in 1974 (I think). On their way back home to Southern Ireland they were stopped and made stand on the side of the road and they started shooting them. The band members jumped into the ditches but 4 of them were killed. The RUC offered no cooperation to the Irish guards in investigations. It's been believed that the RUC knew which paramilitary group were responsible but to this day (50 years later) no one has ever been arrested for it. Thankfully the PSNI work very well with the Irish guards and in fact the Commissioner of the Irish guards is a former PSNI officer. The Good Friday agreement helped to improve things also.
- I want to learn more
- I was not aware that there was a large number of victims residing in Ireland but either way, I would have thought the UK be held responsible to provide any and all supports necessary for those survivors whether they live in the 26 counties or within Northern Ireland
- I was under the impression that survivors or victims were entitled to benefits based on incapacity to work effectively !
- I wouldn't know
- I'd be concerned if compensation is available people will abuse it. I don't feel many people in the younger generation have been affected by the troubles
-
- If there's people who needs help lets help them
- I'm from the north as is my wife. We have both been affected by the conflict. There are no dedicated services available to us specifically for northern conflict issues.
-
- Interesting
- It feels dirty to offer cash payments
- it is time to put the troubled past to bed
- It was a good comprehensive survey
- It's in most people's nature that if they experience something traumatic that they try to bury it and hope it goes away. This rarely works though. And different people deal with different traumatic experiences in different ways. What one approach might work for one person, might not work for another, even possibly making it worse or causing them to withdraw further
- Its needed
- Just get it done and start moving forward
- Let Sinn Fein/IRA pay for it from the 26 million they stole from the Northern Bank!
- Maybe next time a short history of the problem to refreshen some thoughts
- Move on
- No. Great poll though
-

- Only that a lot of terrorists are now sitting in various government parties both north and south, and that makes me mad, also a lot of people know a lot of stuff about what happened up there and keep their mouths shut.
- Please ask how people affected by the troubles are coping.

- Shelter provision should be considered

- sometimes I think that bringing up the past is not good for peace. Being taught at school about the troubles can lead to kids becoming pro or anti different sectors or countries

- The border poll may become a serious related issue

- The government should continue to seek justice for the Talbot Street, Belturbet and other bombing victims.

- There are many untold stories where foreigners are abuse and hit but they don't know the services because they are afraid to be sent back. This should not be tolerated. More centres should be for those people.

- This whole issue has been negatively impacted by misplaced credence attaching to the Westminster regime and its fellow travellers who are, in fact, the cause of all the problems in the first place

- Thought provoking!

- To be shown some respect

- Very interesting survey

- Very interesting survey on an underrated [topic]

- Victims, need to have financial support taking legal action against parties that supported violence.

- Wasn't sure if I was being asked about the present day troubles or that suffered by Irish people during the NI troubles

- We need to get to get these issues sorted and behind us or we will never move on and eventually may end up re visiting the past, that would be an epic failure of politics

- While certainly many people were severely impacted both physically and psychological by the troubles, the suggested scheme will be open to abuse as the victim definition is extremely broad. The inevitable costs to run such a scheme will breed great resentment in the taxpayers who will fund it.

- Would definitely think that no recognition has been given to people who experienced the entire trauma similar to victims on Northern side of border.

- We need to be able to move on

- Yes, I think it is important that people involved in the Troubles incidents are compensated for as such events can have a long-lasting toll on survivors, even those not directly caught up in incidents but who have lost friends etc in events that occurred during the Troubles, decades later as I know of someone who is still very upset at having lost a friend in the Dublin & Monaghan bombings of 1974 even though they themselves were not directly affected by the bomb. I think that victims and survivors of such incidents will never really get over it and will help psychiatric and physical (for those who were injured) help for the rest of their life.