

Céard é an Scéal?

Tuairimí an Phobail
i leith na Gaeilge

Public Opinions
on the Irish Language

Anailís Bhliantúil 1

2015

Annual Analysis 1



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Clár

1. Achoimre Fheidhmeach
2. Réamhrá
3. Suirbhé
4. Fócasghrúpaí
5. Seirbhísí agus Tacaíocht don Ghaeilge
6. Foghlaim agus Úsáid na Gaeilge
7. Gaeloideachas
8. Seachtain na Gaeilge
9. An Ghaeilge agus Cúrsaí Gnó
10. Ról na Gaeilge sa tSochaí
11. PEIG
12. An Ghaeilge agus na Meáin

Aguisín A: Ceistanna Millward Brown (Feabhra 2015)

Aguisín B: Fócasghrúpaí

Contents

1. Executive Summary 2
2. Introduction 4
3. Survey 5
4. Focus Groups 7
5. Services and Support for the Irish Language 8
6. The Learning and Use of the Irish 11
7. Irish-Medium Education 14
8. Seachtain na Gaeilge 17
9. The Irish Language and Business 20
10. The Role of the Irish Language in Society 23
11. PEIG 24
12. The Irish Language and the Media 26

Appendix A: Millward Brown Questions (February 2015)

Appendix B: Focus Groups

Leathanach | Page

1. Achoimre Fheidhmeannach

Rinneadh an taighde seo idir mí Eanáir agus mí Iúil 2015 le léargas a fháil ar dhearcthaí an phobail i leith na Gaeilge agus i leith cúrsaí a bhaineann léi. Ba réimse oibre leathan é seo, le taighde déanta ar ábhair éagsúla agus déanta le daoine le gach leibhéal Gaeilge .i. líofacht na Gaeilge, cúpla focal na bhfoghlaim, agus daoine nach bhfuil ach an corr-fhocal acu nó gan Ghaeilge ar bith. Baineadh úsáid as meascán de thaighde chainníochtúil agus cháilíochtúil san obair seo, agus tá léargas domhain cuimsitheach ar fáil ar na dearcthaí agus na tuairimí atá ag an phobal faoin Ghaeilge dá bharr.

Seo a leanas na hábhair a bhí faoi chaibidil:

- Seirbhísí agus Tacaíocht don Ghaeilge
- Ról na Gaeilge sa tSochaí
- Foghlaim agus Úsáid na Gaeilge
- Gaeloideachas
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- An Ghaeilge agus Cúrsaí Gnó
- An Ghaeilge agus na Meáin
- PEIG

Le linn an taighde seo, chuaigh Conradh na Gaeilge i gcomhairliúchán leis an phobal maidir leis na tuairimí atá acu ar theanga na Gaeilge agus leis na polasaithe a bhaineann léi. Le linn an phróisis seo, léirigh an obair chainníochtúil agus cháilíochtúil go bhfuil an pobal an-báúil don Ghaeilge, agus nach maireann an dea-thoil seo i measc phobal na Gaeilge amháin. Tá tacaíocht leathan ann do sheirbhísí trí mheán na Gaeilge a chur ar fáil agus cearta Gaeloideachais a chosaint. Creideann an mhórchuid den phobal gur cuid lárnach dár gcultúr í an Ghaeilge, agus gur chóir go ndéanfaí freastal ceart ar riachtanais phobal na Gaeilge agus na Gaeltachta dá réir.

Léiríonn na staitisticí síos fríd an tuairisc go n-aontaíonn an mórphobal gur chóir don rialtas an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn agus tacaíocht cheart a thaispeáint di. Tá sé seo soiléir ó na torthaí maidir le comharthaí bóithre, le hainmneacha ar ranna stáit, agus leis an cheist faoin stát ag cur tuilleadh tacaíochta ar fáil don Ghaeilge. Bhí gach freagra ag tacú le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge agus, mar sin, ba chóir go mbeadh sé soiléir do pholaiteoirí nach féidir leo ná nár chóir dóibh neamhaird a dhéanamh ar an cheist seo.

Ar bharr na staitisticí agus na bhfigiúirí a bailíodh sa suirbhé, rinneadh plé níos doimhne ar na ceisteanna seo i sraith d'fhócasghrúpaí le daoine atá lán-pháirteach i saol na Gaeilge, agus le daoine nach bhfuil Gaeilge ar bith acu, agus le gach duine idir eatarthu. An rud ba shuntasá faoi na grúpaí seo ná go raibh téama comónta ann sna grúpaí ar fad faoin nasc pearsanta a mhóthaíonn cuid mhór daoine leis an teanga, agus go bhfuil dlúthbhaint aici lena bhféiniúlacht.

Déanann an saothar seo trácht ar roinnt réimsí éagsúla a bhaineann le saol na Gaeilge, agus tugann gach rannóg léargas ar ghnéithe difriúla den saol seo do dhaoine. Níl i gceist anseo ach tús na hoibre seo áfach. Tógfar ar an obair seo bliain i ndiaidh bliana le cur leis an eolas atá ar fáil faoi na riachtanais agus faoi na toscaíochtaí atá ag pobal na Gaeilge agus ag an mhórchuid maidir leis an teanga.

1. Executive Summary

This research was carried out between January and July of 2015 to gain an insight into the attitudes of the public towards the Irish language and related matters. This was a very broad piece of work with research being carried out on a range of different subject areas and undertaken with people with different levels of Irish, i.e. those fluent in Irish, those with a few words or who are learning the language, and those who only have very little Irish or none at all. A mixture of quantitative and qualitative research was used in this work and a deep insight into the views and opinions of the public in relation to the Irish language has been produced as a result of this.

The following topics were included:

- Services and Support for the Irish Language
- The Role of the Irish Language in Society
- The Learning and Use of the Irish Language
- Irish-medium Education
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- The Irish Language and Business
- The Irish Language and the Media
- PEIG

Throughout this research, Conradh na Gaeilge consulted with the public in regards to the opinions that it holds in relation to the Irish language and the policies which relate to it. During this process, the quantitative and qualitative work showed that the public is very much in favour of the Irish language, and that this good will doesn't only exist within the Irish language community. There is broad support for the provision of services through Irish and the protection of the right to Irish-medium education. Most people believe that the language is a central part of our culture and that proper provision should be made for the needs of the Irish language and Gaeltacht communities accordingly.

The statistics in this report show that the wider public agree that the government should be promoting the language and show real support for it. This is clear from the results relating to road signs, the names of government organisations, and the question of the state providing more support to the Irish language. Each answer supported the development of the Irish language and it should, therefore, be clear to politicians that they cannot and should not ignore this question.

In addition to the statistics and figures which were collected in the survey, deeper discussion was carried out on these questions in a series of focus groups with people who are fully immersed in the Irish language, with people who don't have any Irish at all, and with people at all stages in between. The most significant thing about these groups was that there was a common theme throughout each of the groups that many people feel a deep connection with the language, and that this is closely related to their identity.

This work discusses various different themes related to the Irish language community, and each section gives an insight to a different aspect of this community for people. However, this work is only the beginning. This work will be built on each year in order to add to the information that is available in relation to the needs and the priorities of the Irish language community and the wider community in relation to the language.

Seo a leanas roinnt de na staitisticí sa tuairisc seo:

- Ba mhaith le 45% de dhaoine ó dheas agus le 26% de dhaoine ó thuaidh an deis a bheith acu tuilleadh Gaeilge a úsáid
- Ba mhaith le 44% de dhaoine ó dheas agus le 29% de dhaoine ó thuaidh an deis a bheith acu tuilleadh Gaeilge a fhoghlaim
- Creideann 72% de dhaoine ó dheas agus 63% ó thuaidh gur chóir go mbeadh Gaeloideachas ar fáil do dhaoine ar mhaith leo é
- Aontaíonn 65% de dhaoine ó dheas agus 55% de dhaoine ó thuaidh gur chóir don stát / rialtas tacaíocht a thabhairt do phobail áitiúla chun stráitéis Ghaeilge a fhorbairt ina gceantar féin
- Ba mhaith le 61% de dhaoine ó dheas agus le 48% de dhaoine ó thuaidh tuilleadh tacaíochta a fheiceáil don Ghaeilge ón stát / rialtas
- Creideann 70% de dhaoine ó dheas agus 54% de dhaoine ó thuaidh gur chóir go mbeadh seirbhísí ar fáil trí Ghaeilge do dhaoine ar mhaith leo iad a úsáid
- Aontaíonn 53% de dhaoine ó dheas agus 46% de dhaoine ó thuaidh gur féidir leis an Ghaeilge cur go dearfach le forbairt eacnamaíochta an oileáin
- Creideann 42% de dhaoine ó dheas agus 37% de dhaoine ó thuaidh gur gné uathúil dhíolacháin í an Ghaeilge
- Creideann 53% de dhaoine ó dheas gur chóir go mbeadh ainmneacha Gaeilge ar chomhlachtaí stáit nó leathstáit i gcónaí
- Creideann 50% de dhaoine ó thuaidh gur chóir comharthaíocht dháttheangach a chur in airde i gceantair ina bhfuil éileamh ann
- Tá 5% de dhaoine ó thuaidh muiníneach as a gcuid Gaeilge labhartha agus 8% de dhaoine ó thuaidh muiníneach go dtuigeann siad an Ghaeilge
- Tá 26% de dhaoine ó dheas muiníneach as a gcuid Gaeilge labhartha agus 35% de dhaoine ó dheas muiníneach go dtuigeann siad an Ghaeilge
- Tá 50% de dhaoine ó dheas agus 11% de dhaoine ó thuaidh ar an eolas faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge
- I measc na ndaoine atá ar an eolas faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge, ghlac 33% acu ó dheas agus 25% acu ó thuaidh páirt in imeacht de chuid Sheachtain na Gaeilge

Below are some of the statistics in this report:

- 45% of people in the south and 26% in the north would like the opportunity to use more Irish
- 44% of people in the south and 29% of people in the north would like the opportunity to learn more Irish
- 72% of people in the south and 63% of people in the north believe that Irish-medium education should be available for those who wish to avail of it
- 65% of people in the south and 55% of people in the north agree that the state/government should provide support for local communities to develop Irish language strategies in their own area
- 61% of people in the south and 48% of people in the north would like to see more support for the Irish language from the state/government
- 70% of people in the south and 54% of people in the north believe that services should be available through Irish for those who wish to use them
- 53% of people in the south and 46% of people in the north agree that the Irish language can positively contribute to the economic development of the island
- Creideann 42% of people in the south and 37% of people in the north that the Irish language is a unique selling point
- 53% of people in the south believe that the name of government agencies/semi-state bodies should always be in Irish
- 50% of people in the north believe that bilingual signage should be erected in areas where there is demand
- 5% of people in the north are confident of their ability to speak Irish and 8% are confident in their understanding of Irish
- 26% of people in the south are confident of their ability to speak Irish and 35% are confident in their understanding of Irish
- 50% of the population in the south and 11% of the population in the north have heard of Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Of those who are aware of Seachtain na Gaeilge, 33% in the south and 25% in the north have taken part in an event of Seachtain na Gaeilge

Noda a úsáidtear sa cháipéis seo

AB: Ceirdeanna ard-bhainistíochta agus meán-bhainistíochta, riaracháin agus proifisiúnta

C1: Ceirdeanna maoirseachta, cléireacha, bainistíochta sóisearacha, agus proifisiúnta

C2: Ceirdeanna oilte láimhe

DE: Ceirdeann leathoilte agus neamhoilte, daoine dífhostaithe, agus ceirdeanna den ghrád is ísle

GTEST: Gníomhaireacht Thuaisceart Éireann um Staitisticí agus Taighde

RCEF: Roinn Cultúir, Ealaíon agus Fóilíochta

Abbreviations used in this document

AB: Higher & intermediate managerial, administrative, professional occupations

C1: Supervisory, clerical & junior managerial, administrative, professional occupations

C2: Skilled manual occupations

DE: Semi-skilled & unskilled manual occupations, unemployed, and lowest grade occupations

NISRA: Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

DCAL: Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure

2. Réamhrá

Cuireadh tús le ‘*Céard é an Scéal?*’ - tuairimí an phobail i leith na Gaeilge, ag tús 2015. Go príomha, tá an taighde seo á dhéanamh ag Conradh na Gaeilge chun;

- a) riachtanais agus tosaíochtaí phobal na Gaeilge agus na Gaeltachta a aibhsiú agus a chur chun cinn
- b) constaicí maidir le fás agus forbairt na Gaeilge sa mhórphobal a aithint agus plean oibre a dhréachtú dá réir

Mar gheall ar an eolas seo, beidh Conradh na Gaeilge in ann stocaireacht níos éifeachtaí agus tomhaiste a dhéanamh ar son phobal na Gaeilge leis na húdaráis, le heagraíochtaí poiblí agus sa saol poiblí i gcoitinne.

Déanfar an taighde seo ar bhonn bliantúil amach anseo chun na réimsí difriúla atá ann i saol na Gaeilge agus na Gaeltachta a chlúdach, agus le tuiscint níos doimhne a fhorbairt i dtaca le riachtanais phobal na Gaeilge fud fad an oileáin. Chomh maith leis sin, táimid ag súil go dtabharfaidh an taighde seo go leor eolas breise do na ceannagraíochtaí eile agus do ghrúpaí Gaeilge trí chéile gur féidir a úsáid le cur lena gcuid oibre.

Leis na torthaí is cruinne agus is soiléire a shaothrú ón taighde seo, rinneadh taighde cainníochtúil agus taighde cáilíochtúil leis an phobal. Mar gheall air seo, tá léiriú soiléir ann maidir le dearcthaí an phobail ar na téamaí áirithe a clúdaíodh i dtaighde na bliana seo, ach nuair a chuirtear an t-eolas seo leis an taighde cainníochtúil, tá léargas níos doimhne agus iomláine faighte maidir le tuairimí an phobail agus na fáthanna taobh thiar dóibh. Rinneadh é seo trí shuirbhé ag tús mhí Eanáir 2015, a rinneadh i bpáirtíocht leis an chomhlacht taighde neamhspléach Millward Brown, agus rinneadh sraith fócasghrúpaí i bpáirtíocht le Amárach Research i mí an Mheithimh 2015 a bhí bunaithe don chuid is mó ar anailís a rinneadh ar an eolas a bailíodh sa suirbhé.

2. Introduction

‘*Céard é an Scéal?*’ - a yearly analysis of public opinions with regard to the Irish Language, was started in early 2015. Primarily, this research is being conducted by Conradh na Gaeilge to:

- a) To highlight and promote the needs and priorities of the Irish Language and Gaeltacht community
- b) To recognise obstacles in relation to the growth and development of the Irish language in the wider community and to develop a workplan accordingly

As a result of the information collected, Conradh na Gaeilge will be able to carry out more effective and measurable advocacy on behalf of the Irish language community with the authorities, with public bodies and in public life in general.

This research will be carried out on an annual basis in the future to include various aspects of Irish language and Gaeltacht life, and to develop a deeper understanding of the needs of the Irish language community across the island. In addition to this, it is hoped that this research will provide the other lead organisations and Irish language organisations in general with additional information that they can use in their own work.

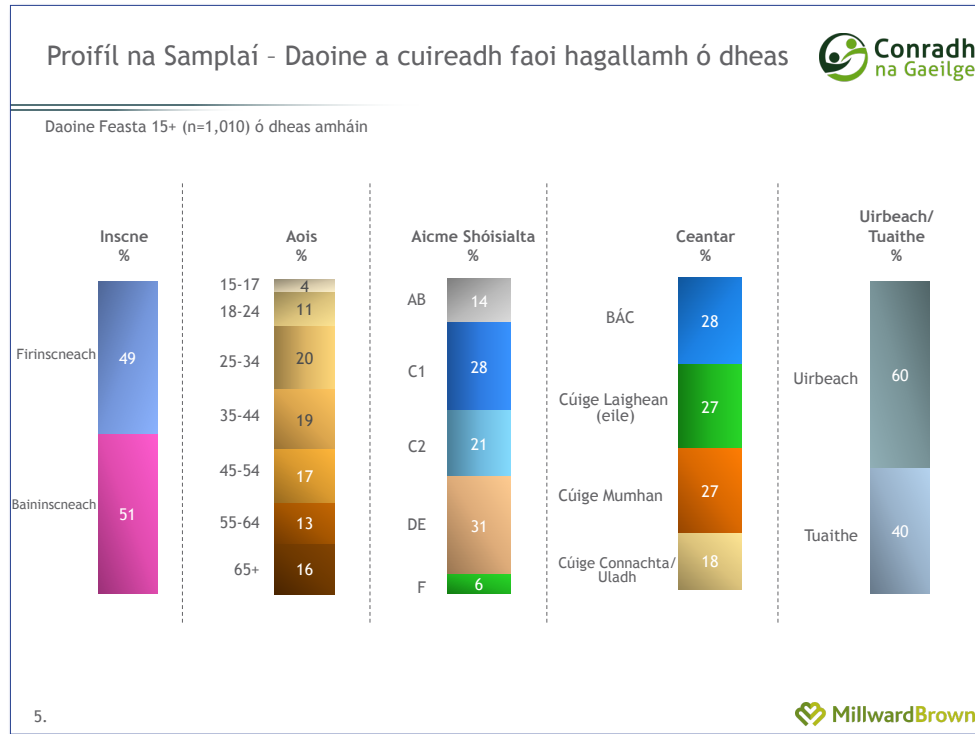
To gain the most accurate and clear results from this research, both qualitative and quantitative research was carried out with the public. Due to this, there is a clear picture of the views of the public on the themes covered in this year’s research. When added with the quantitative research, a deeper and more complete insight is gained into the views of the public and the reasons behind these. This was done through a survey in January 2015 in partnership with independent research company Millward Brown, and a series of focus groups conducted in partnership with Amárach Research in June 2015 which were based, for the most part, on the analysis of the information collected in the survey.

3. Suirbhé

Mar chuid den taighde cainníochtúil sa saothar seo, rinneadh suirbhé ag Millward Brown le breis agus 2,000 duine fud fad na tíre. Cuireadh na daoine seo faoi agallamh ag Millward Brown, agus d'fhreagair siad ceisteanna a bhain leis na tuairimí pearsanta atá acu faoin Ghaeilge, na seirbhísí atá ar fáil trí Ghaeilge faoi láthair agus faoi fheachtais éagsúla atá ábhartha faoi láthair. Tá liosta na gceisteanna ar fad a cuireadh ar rannpháirtithe sa suirbhé ar fáil in Aguisín A.

Seo a leanas briseadh síos ar na daoine a cuireadh faoi agallamh mar chuid den tsuirbhé seo:

Figiúr 1: Daoine a cuireadh faoi agallamh ó dheas:

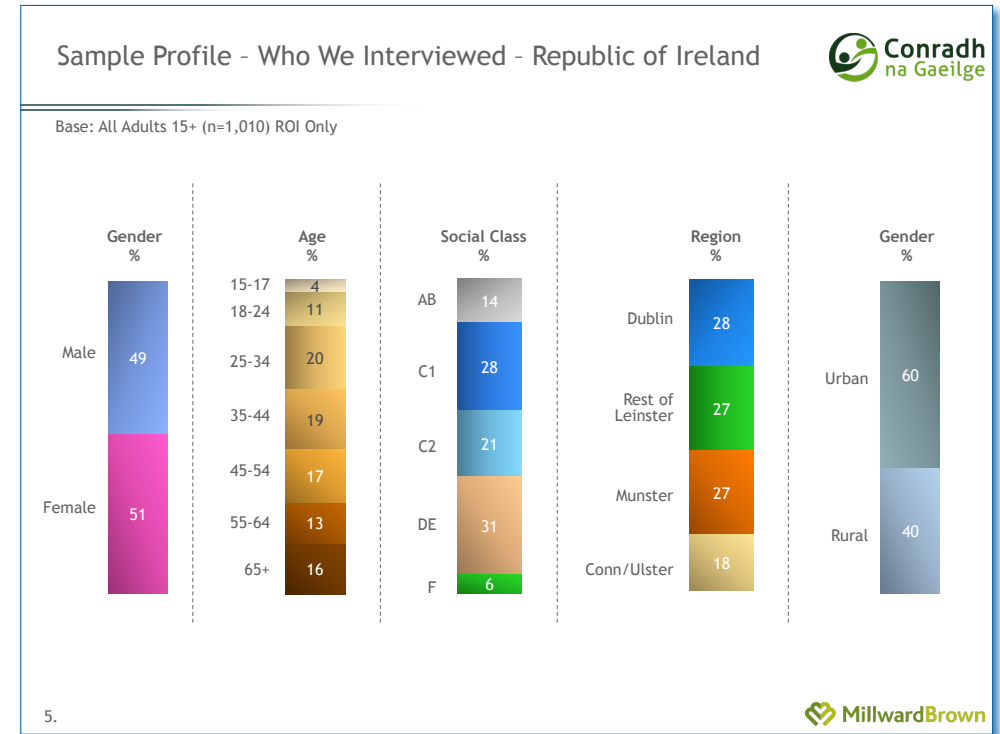


3. Survey

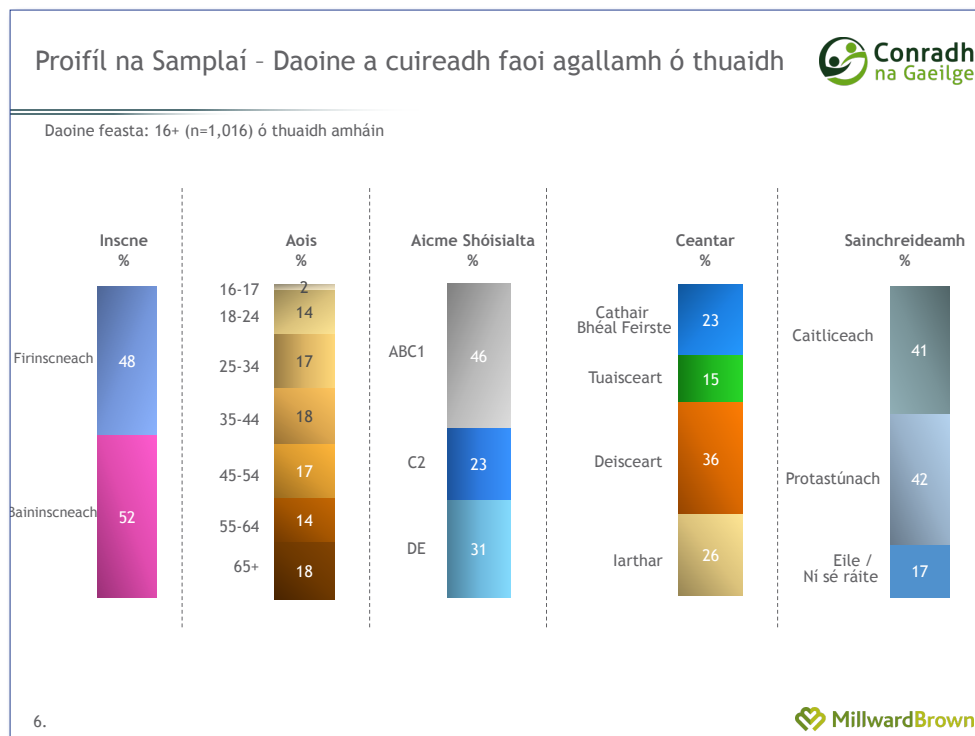
As part of this quantitative research, Millard Brown carried out a survey with more than 2,000 people across the country. These people were interviewed and answered questions relating to their personal opinions about the Irish language, the services that are currently available through Irish and about various campaigns which are currently relevant. A complete list of the questions that were asked of the participants is available at Appendix A.

The following is a breakdown of those who were interviewed as part of this survey:

Figure 1: People who were interviewed in the south:



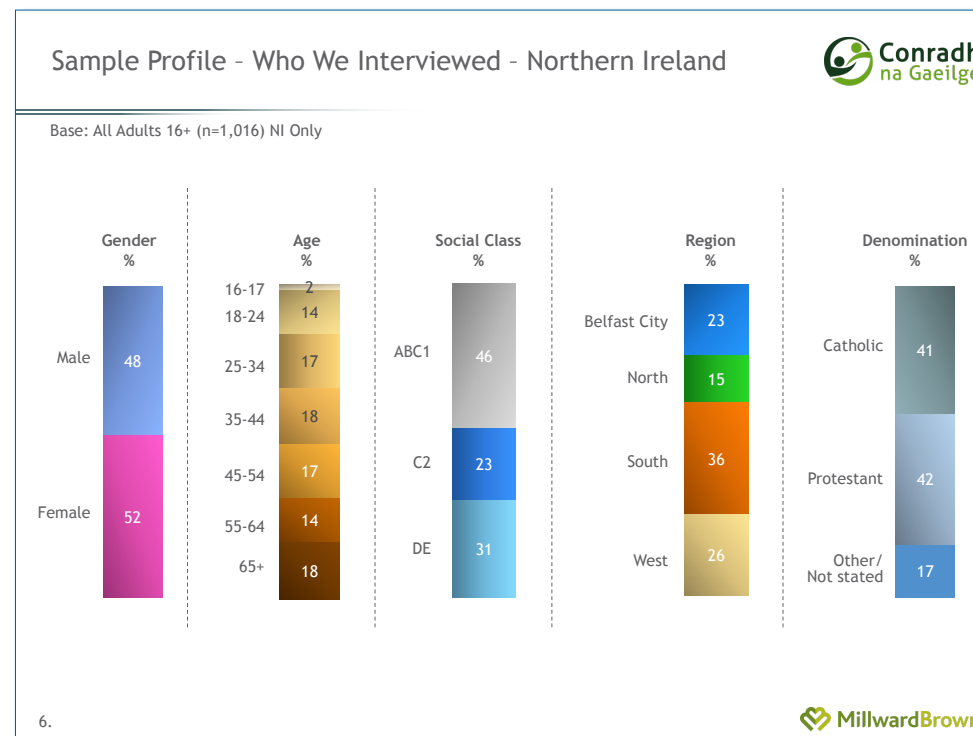
Figióir 2: Daoine a cuireadh faoi agallamh ó thuaidh:



Léiríonn na figiúirí seo thuas go bhfuil na torthaí a tháinig chun tosaigh sa suirbhé ionadaíoch ar an phobal iomlán sa tír seo, agus tugann sé seo léargas domhain dúinn ar dheartaí an phobail ar na ceisteanna seo.

Bunaithe ar an léargas seo a thug torthaí an tsuirbhé dúinn ar thuairimí an phobail, cuireadh tús le sraith fócasghrúpaí le tógáil ar an eolas seo agus le heolas cáilíochtúil a bhailiú ar na hábhair cheánna.

Figure 2: People who were interviewed in the north:



These figures show that the results that are found in the survey are representative of the population of the country. This gives us an insight into the views of the public on these questions.

Based on the insight that this survey has given us, a series of focus groups were carried out to build on this information and to collect qualitative information on the same subjects.

4. Fócasghrúpaí

Mar gheall go raibh eolas á lorg ar na tuairimí atá ag daoine difriúla maidir leis an Ghaeilge agus le cúrsaí Gaeltachta, rinneadh cinneadh na grúpaí a shocrú le daoine a bhfuil leibhéal dhifriúla Gaeilge acu. An smaoinemh atá taobh thiar de seo ná go mbeadh dearchtaí éagsúla ag daoine a bhfuil líofacht sa Ghaeilge acu, iad siúd atá ag foghlaim na Gaeilge agus daoine nach bhfuil mórán Gaeilge nó aon Ghaeilge acu ar chor ar bith. Rinneadh sé fhócasghrúpa ar fad:

- dhá ghrúpa i mBaile Átha Cliath,
- grúpa amháin i nGort a' Choirce le linn an 'Tionól Gaeltachta'
- agus trí ghrúpa i mBéal Feirste.

Bhí idir seisear agus deichniúr i láthair ag gach grúpa leis an mbriseadh síos a leanas:

- grúpa amháin ann ó thuaidh agus ó grúpa amháin ó dheas le Gaeilgeoirí líofa,
- grúpa amháin ó thuaidh agus ó dheas le foghlaimoírí Gaeilge,
- agus grúpa amháin ó thuaidh agus ó dheas le daoine nach bhfuil aon Ghaeilge nó nach bhfuil ach cúpla focal Gaeilge acu.

Rinneadh an earcaíocht seo i gcomhar le Amárach Research, le cothromas a chinntiú i ngach grúpa. I measc na ngrúpaí gan Ghaeilge, bhí meascán de dhaoine atá báúil don Ghaeilge agus nach bhfuil, agus rinneadh iarracht le gach grúpa sa phróiseas daoine a chur san áireamh atá ionadaíoch ar phobal na tíre i gcoitinne (.i. ó thaobh inscne, aois, cúlra eacnamaíochta agus eile).

Bunaíodh téamaí na ngrúpaí don chuid is mó ar na torthaí a tháinig ó shuirbhé Millward Brown, ach le plé oscailte nadúrtha a chruthú leis na grúpaí seo, rinneadh plé ar ábhair eile nach raibh san áireamh sa chéad suirbhé. Tá liosta na dtéamaí ar fáil in Aguisín B.

4. Focus Groups

As information was being sought on the opinions that different people have in relation to the Irish language and Gaeltacht matters, these groups were made up of people with varying levels of Irish. The rationale behind this decision was that different opinions would likely be held by those who are fluent in Irish, those who are learning the Irish language or who do not have much Irish and those who only have very few words of Irish or none at all. Six focus groups were conducted altogether:

- two groups in Dublin,
- one group in Gortahork during the Tionól Gaeltachta
- and three groups in Belfast.

There were between six and ten participants in each group with the following breakdown:

- one group in the north and one in the south with fluent Irish speakers,
- one group conducted in the north and one in the south with learners of the language
- and one group in the south and in the north with people who said they have no Irish at all or only very little.

The recruitment for these groups was done in partnership with Amárach Research, to ensure balance in each group. In the groups without any Irish, there was a mixture of people who were in favour of the development of the Irish language and others who weren't, and efforts were made with each group to ensure that those involved were representative of the wider public (i.e. in terms of gender, age, class, etc).

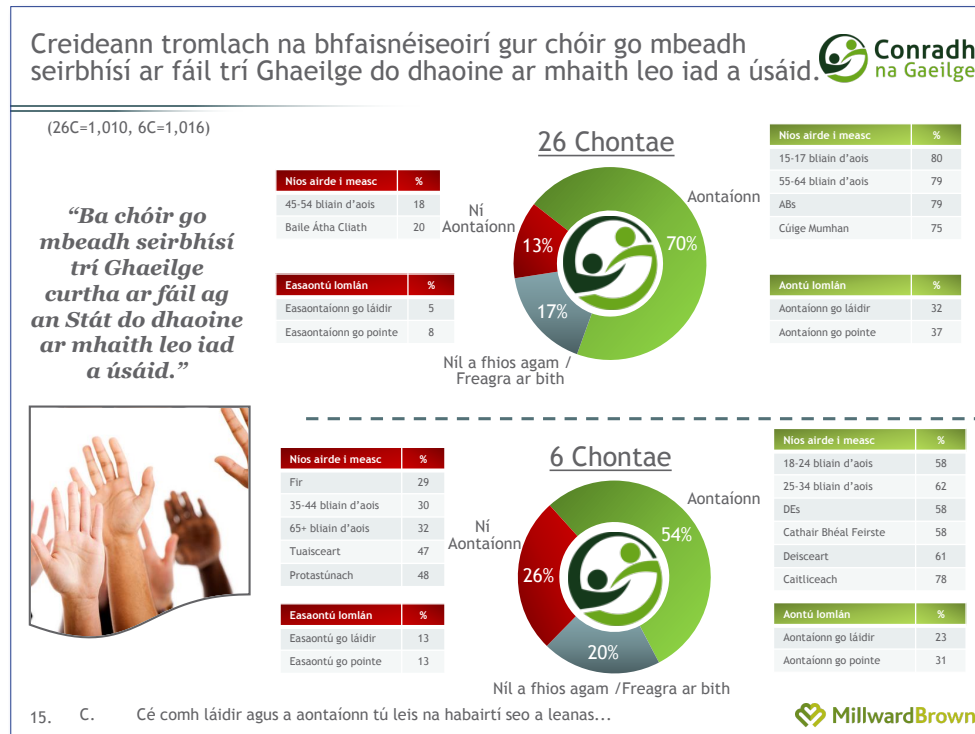
The themes of these groups were based on the results of the survey carried out by Millward Brown. To facilitate open and natural discussion with these groups, other subjects were discussed which weren't included in the initial survey. A list of the themes can be found at Appendix B.

5. Seirbhísí agus Tacaíocht don Ghaeilge

(A) Torthaí an tSuirbhé:

Cuireadh dhá cheist chainníochtúla ar rannpháirtithe an tsuirbhé maidir leis na seirbhísí agus tacaíocht atá ar fáil don Ghaeilge. Ba é an chéad cheist a chuireadh ná “Ar chóir go mbeadh seirbhísí ar fáil trí Ghaeilge do dhaoine ar mhaith leo iad a úsáid?” agus an dara cheist a cuireadh ná “An aontaíonn tú gur chóir don stát/ rialtas tuilleadh tacaíochta a chur ar fáil don Ghaeilge?” Caitear leis na ceisteanna seo in aon rannóg amháin anseo mar gheall ar an dlúthbhaint atá ann idir na seirbhísí atá ar fáil trí Ghaeilge agus an tacaíocht atá ar fáil don Ghaeilge.

Figúir 3: Ar chóir go mbeadh seirbhísí ar fáil trí Ghaeilge do dhaoine ar mhaith leo iad a úsáid?

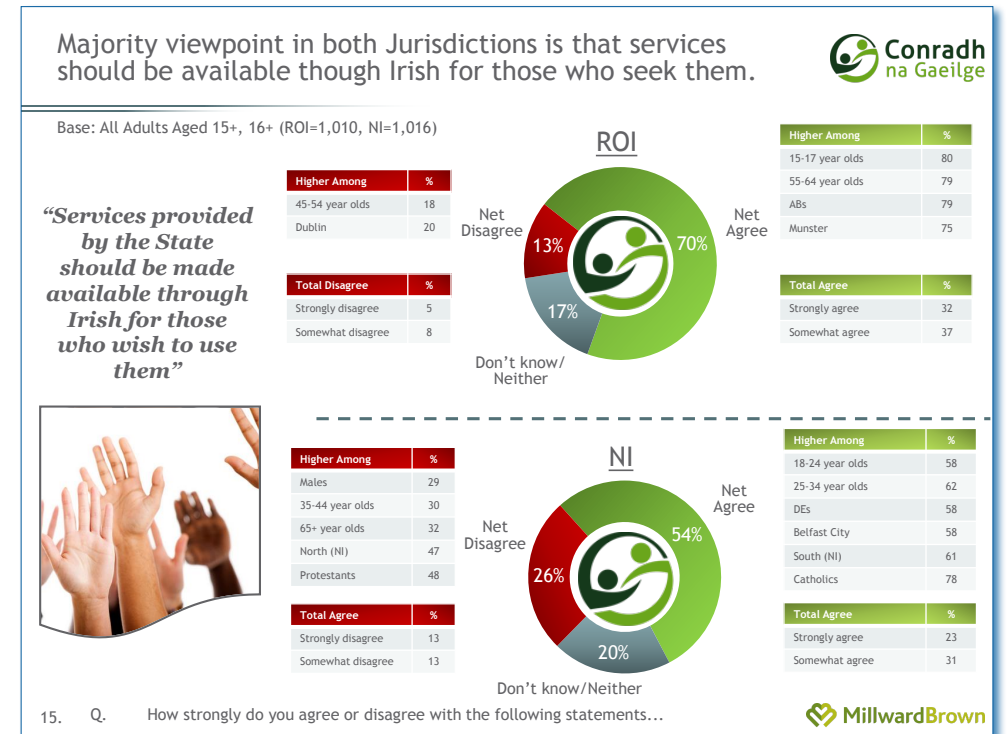


5. Services and Support for the Irish Language

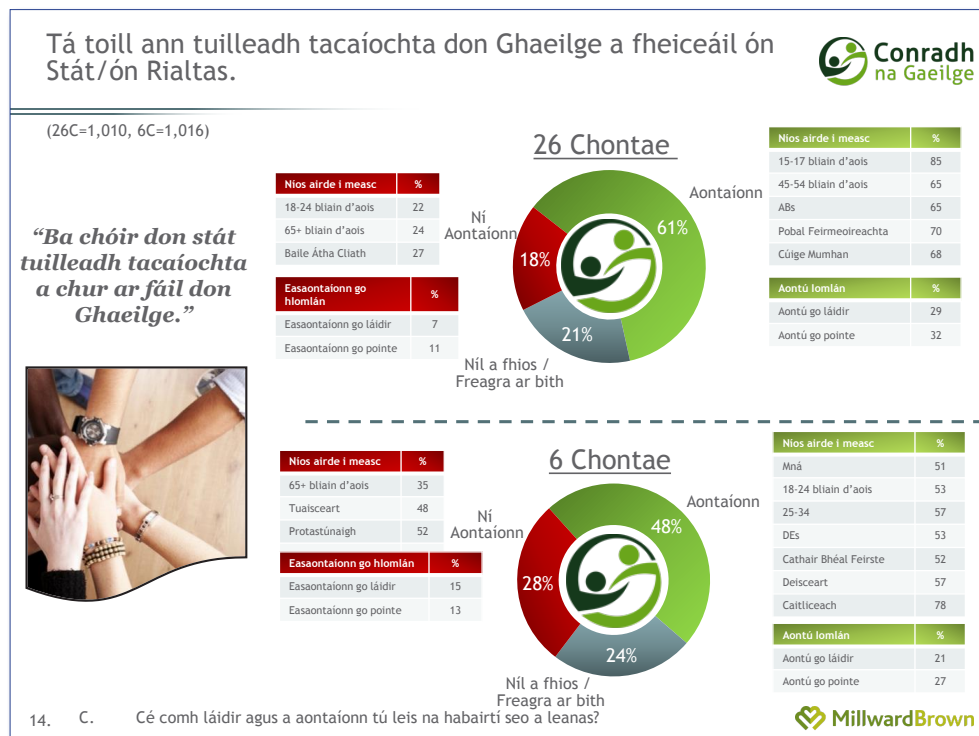
(A) Results of the Survey:

Two quantitative questions were asked of the participants in the survey in relation to the services and support that is available to the Irish language. The first question that was asked was “Should services be available through Irish for those who seek to use them?” and the second question asked was “Do you agree that the state/government should provide more support for the Irish language?” These questions are dealt with together here because of the close relationship between the services that are available and the support that is given to the Irish language.

Figure 3: Should services be available through Irish for those who wish to use them?

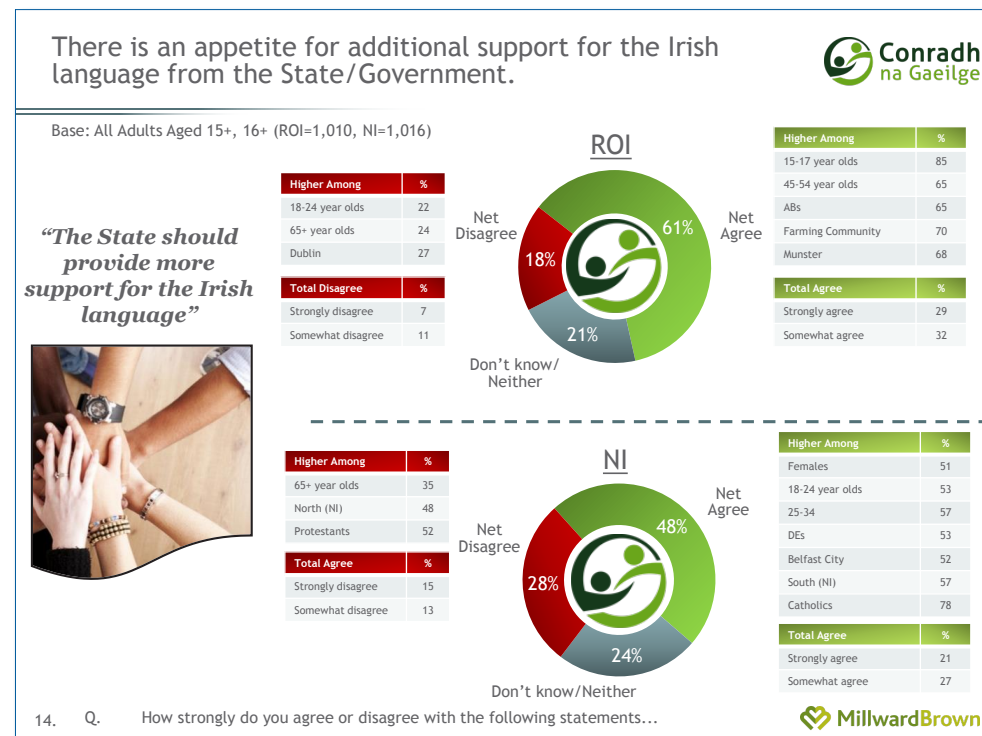


Figúir 4: An aontaíonn tú gur chóir don stát/rialtas tuilleadh tacaíochta a chur ar fáil don Ghaeilge?



Léiríonn na staitisticí seo go bhfuil an-chuid dea-thola ann don Ghaeilge i measc an phobail ó thuaidh agus ó dheas. Tá mórchuid den phobal fud fad na tíre den bharúil gur chóir go mbeadh seirbhísí Gaeilge ar fáil trí Ghaeilge do dhaoine ar mhaith leo iad a úsáid. Ar a bharr seo, aontaíonn 61% agus 48% den phobal ó dheas agus ó thuaidh gur chóir don stát/rialtas tuilleadh tacaíochta a chur ar fáil don Ghaeilge. Ar a bharr sin, níl ach 18% den phobal ó dheas agus 28% ó thuaidh nach n-aontaíonn leis seo. Is léir ó na figiúirí suntasacha seo go bhfuil tacaíocht leathan ann do sholáthar seirbhísí cuimsitheacha do phobal na Gaeilge agus Gaeltachta. Ní amháin go bhfuil toil ón phobal ann seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge a fheiceáil, ach is léir go n-aontaíonn an pobal gur chóir go gcuirtear na seirbhísí seo ar fáil ag an stát/rialtas fosta.

Figure 4: Do you agree that the state/government should do more to support the Irish language?



These statistics show that there is a great deal of good will towards the Irish language in the north and south. The majority of the public across the country is of the opinion that services should be available through Irish for those who wish to use them. In addition to this, 61% of the public in the south and 48% in the north agree that the state/government should provide more support to the Irish language. Only 18% of the public in the south and 28% in the north do not agree with this. It is clear from these figures that there is wide support for the provision of comprehensive services to the Irish language and Gaeltacht communities. Not only is there public will to see services available through Irish, but it is also clear that the public agrees that these services should be provided by the state/government.

(B) Torthaí na bhFócasghrúpaí:

Mar gheall ar an eolas a aimsíodh sa suirbhé cainníochtúil, rinneadh plé ar na ceisteanna seo sna fócasghrúpaí cáilíochtúla. Bhí an-éagsúlacht sna freagraí idir na grúpaí difriúla agus taobh istigh de na grúpaí féin. Seo a leanas na pointí is mó a tháinig chun tosaigh:

- Caithfear na seirbhísí atá ar fáil trí Ghaeilge bheith ar chomhchéim leis na seirbhísí atá ar fáil trí Bhéarla le rogha cothrom a thabhairt do dhaoine. Is ionann seirbhís lag Gaeilge a chur ar fáil agus rogha teanga a bhaint ón phobal.
- Is iomaí deacracht a bhíonn ag daoine ó dheas agus iad ag éileamh seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge, fiú nuair a deirtear leo go bhfuil na seirbhísí seo ar fáil. Bíonn moill ar sheirbhísí nó bíonn ar Ghaeilgeoirí tuilleadh iarratas a dhéanamh leis an tseirbhís a fháil trí Ghaeilge, rud a chruthaíonn deacrachtaí dóibh agus a chuireann as do dhaoine i gcásanna áirithe seirbhís a lorg trí Ghaeilge. Nuair atá moill, tuilleadh oibre, nó bacanna eile ann le seirbhís Gaeilge a bhaint amach bíonn i bhfad níos mó seans ann go n-iarrfaidh daoine seirbhís trí Bhéarla. Is minic a tharlaíonn sé seo mar gheall nach mbíonn a fhios ag daoine an féidir leo seirbhís trí Ghaeilge a fháil. Bíonn drogall ar dhaoine ceist a chur faoi seirbhís trí Ghaeilge nuair nach bhfuil siad cinnte, mar gheall go mothaíonn siad go bhfuil siad ag cruthú deacrachtaí do bhaill fhoirme san áit ina bhfuil siad.
- Mar gheall nach n-éilíonn daoine seirbhís trí Ghaeilge i gcónaí, fiú agus iad ag iarraidh a gcuid Gaeilge a labhairt leis an soláthraí/soláthar seirbhíse, bíonn sé fíor-dheacair an t-éileamh atá ann a mheas do sheirbhís ar bith faoi leith.
- I measc iad siúd nach bhfuil Gaeilge ar bith acu, bhí tuairim láidir ann gur chóir go mbeadh seirbhísí ar fáil do Ghaeilgeoirí más maith leo iad a úsáid, a fhad is nach mbaineann sé seo ó na seirbhísí atá ar fáil trí Bhéarla.

(B) Results of the Focus Groups:

Following on from the information that was found in the quantitative survey, discussion was held on these questions in the qualitative focus groups. There was a great deal of variation in the answers between each group and within the groups themselves. Below are the main points that came to light:

- Services that are available through Irish must be of an equal standard to the services that are available through English in order to give people a fair choice. Having an Irish language service that is weak amounts to removing the language choice from people.
- Many difficulties are faced by people in the south when demanding services through Irish, even when they have been told that these services are available. There are delays in receiving services or people must make extra applications to receive a service through Irish, something which creates difficulties for them and puts people off seeking services through Irish. When there is a delay, more work, or other obstacles in place to receive a service through Irish it is much more likely that people will seek a service through English. Often this happens because people aren't aware that services are available through Irish. People are reluctant to request a service through Irish when they are unsure, because they feel that they are creating difficulties for the members of staff.
- Because people don't always request a service through Irish, even when they wish to speak Irish with the service provider, it is very difficult to assess the real demand which exists for any particular service.
- Among those who did not have any Irish, there was a strong opinion that services should be available for those who wish to use them, as long as this does not detract from the services which are available through English.

6. Foghlaim agus Úsáid na Gaeilge

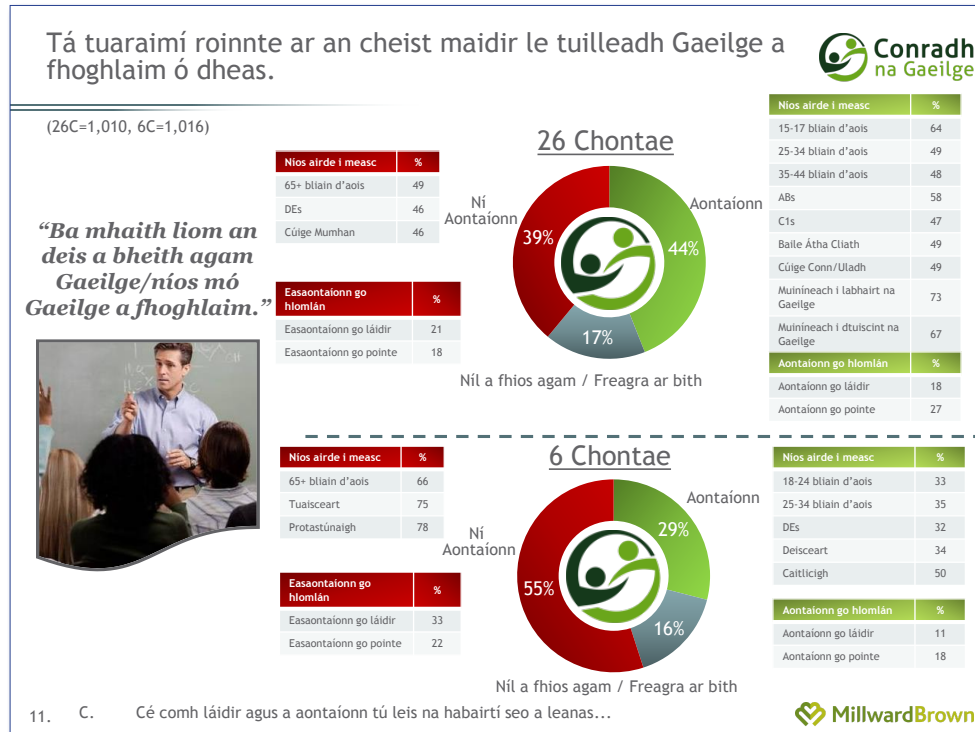
(A) Torthaí an tSuirbhé:

Le measúnú a dhéanamh ar na dearthaí atá ag daoine maidir le foghlaim agus le húsáid na Gaeilge, cuireadh ceist chainníochtúil orthu maidir leis na hábhair seo:

- An aontaíonn tú gur mhaith leat tuilleadh Gaeilge a fhoghlaim? Agus
- An aontaíonn tú gur mhaith leat an deis tuilleadh Gaeilge a úsáid?

Seo a leanas na torthaí a tháinig chun solais:

Figiúr 5: An aontaíonn tú gur mhaith leat tuilleadh Gaeilge a fhoghlaim?



Ó thuaidh agus ó dheas, is léir go bhfuil níos mó suime ag daoine óga deis a bheith acu níos mó Gaeilge a fhoghlaim. Aontaíonn 64% de dhaoine idir 15-17 bliain d'aois gur mhaith leo é seo a dhéanamh, rud atá fíor-shuimiúil mar gheall go bhfuil seans maith ann go bhfuil na daoine seo fós ag déanamh staidéir ar an Ghaeilge agus iad ar scoil. Tá an uimhir seo ard ó thuaidh fosta, rud a léiríonn go bhfuil an-suim ag daoine óga fud fad na hÉireann sa teanga.

6. Learning and Use of the Irish Language

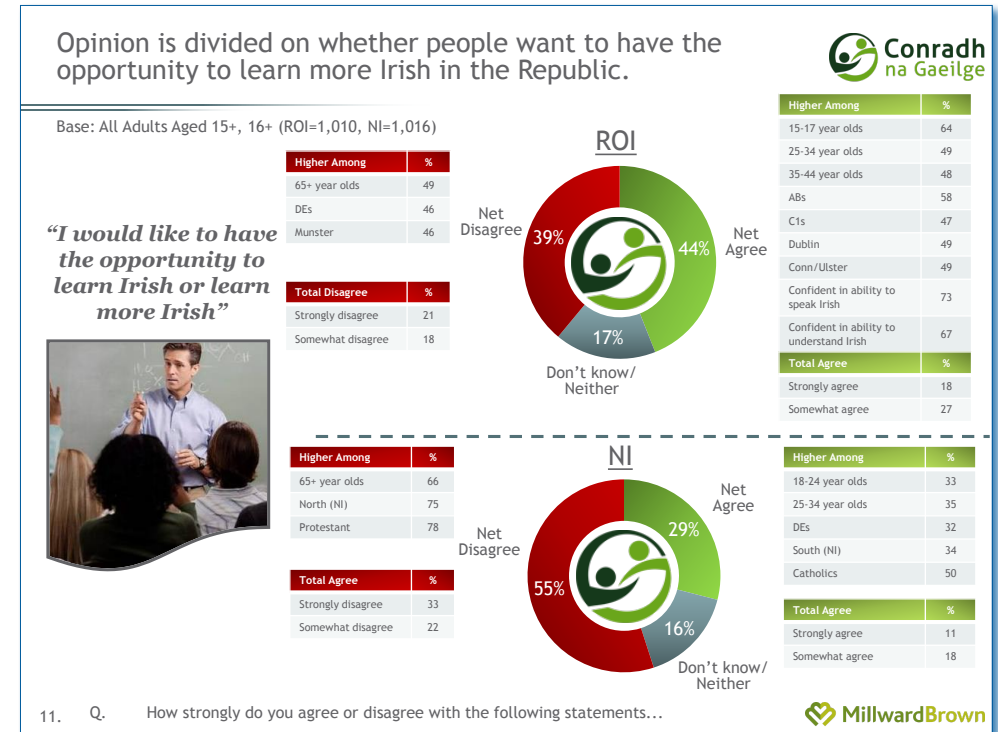
(A) Results of the Survey:

To assess the views that people have in relation to the learning and use of the Irish language, quantitative questions were asked of the participants in relations to these topics:

- Do you agree that you would like to learn more Irish? And
- Do you agree that you would like the opportunity to use more Irish?

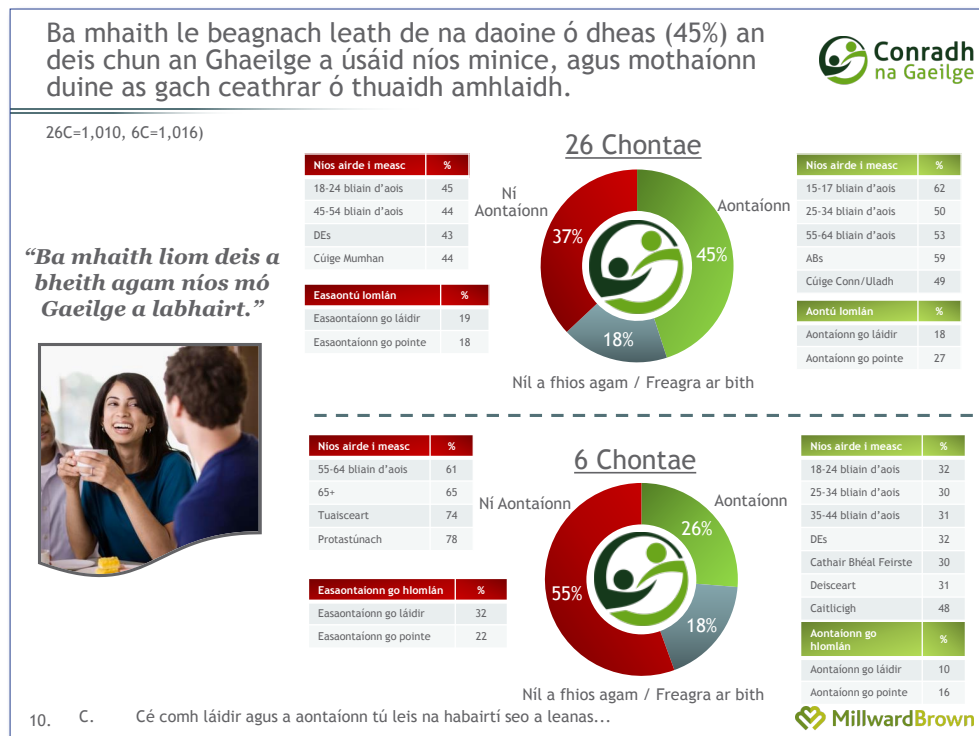
Below are the results that were found:

Figure 5: Do you agree that you would like to learn more Irish?



In the north and in the south, it is clear that there is more interest among young people in learning more Irish. 64% of people between 15-17 years of age in the south agree that they would like to learn more Irish, something which is very interesting considering that there is a good chance that these people are still studying Irish at school. This figure is also high in the north, which shows that young people across Ireland have an interest in the language.

Figúir 6: An aontaíonn tú gur mhaith leat an Ghaeilge a úsáid níos minice?



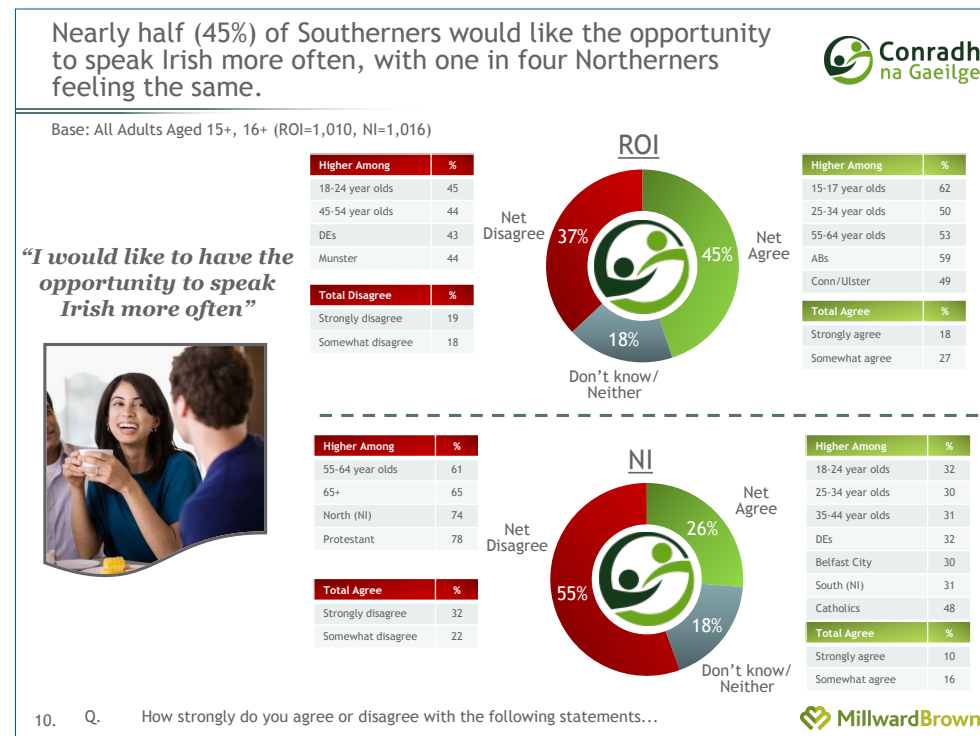
Arís, tá figiúirí arda ann i measc daoine óga atá ag iarraidh tuilleadh Gaeilge a úsáid. Ar a bharr sin, tá difear ó thuaidh agus ó dheas i líon na ndaoine atá ag iarraidh tuilleadh Gaeilge a úsáid ó thaobh aicme de. I measc na ranna eacnamaíochta ar fad ó dheas, is é an grúpa is mó a bhfuil suim acu tuilleadh Gaeilge a úsáid ná an grúpa AB, agus ó dheas is é an grúpa DE a aontaíonn leis seo.

(B) Torthaí na bhFócasghrúpaí:

Le tuilleadh eolas cainníochtúil a bhailiú ar an ábhar seo, cuireadh ceist ar na grúpaí ar fad ag fiosrú na rudaí a mheallfadh daoine le tuilleadh Gaeilge a fhoghlaim agus le tuilleadh Gaeilge a úsáid. I gcás na bhfoghlaimoirí, cuireadh ceist orthu cén fáth ar roghnaigh siad an Ghaeilge a fhoghlaim nó an Ghaeilge a bhí acu a fhorbairt, agus i gcás na ndaoine nach bhfuil aon Ghaeilge acu, cuireadh ceist orthu maidir leis na nithe a bheadh de dhíth chun na daoine seo a mhealladh i dtreo anGhaeilge a fhoghlaim. Leis na grúpaí a raibh Gaeilgeoirí líofa iontu, thug siad léargas ar na rudaí a mbíonn ag éirí leo chun na spriocanna seo a bhaint amach óna gcuid táithí féin. Rinneadh na pointí seo a leanas:

- Tá an taobh sóisialta iontach tábhachtach do dhaoine atá ag déanamh iarrachta tuilleadh Gaeilge a fhoghlaim nó a úsáid. Dúradh go mbíonn na gnéithe seo iontach tábhachtach

Figure 6: Do you agree that you would like the opportunity to use more Irish?



Again, the figures for young people who would like to use the Irish language more are very high. In addition to this, there is a difference in the amount of people who would like to use more of the Irish language in terms of socio-economic class. Among the classes in the south, the largest grouping with an interest in speaking more Irish is the AB group, whereas in the north the DE group agrees most strongly with this.

(B) Results of the Focus Groups:

To collect more qualitative information on this subject, all of the groups were asked what would attract them to learn or to use more Irish. When speaking with the learners, they were asked why they had chosen to learn Irish, or to develop the Irish that they had, and when speaking with those who had no Irish, they were asked what would be needed in order to attract them to learn the Irish language. In the groups with fluent Irish speakers, they gave an insight into the things that they see working in their own experience. The following points were made:

- The social side of learning the language is very important to people who are making an effort to learn or to use more Irish. It was said that this aspect is very important to people who are already working full time and for those who don't have formal qualifications,

do dhaoine atá ag obair go lán-aimseartha cheánna féin agus iad siúd nach bhfuil ag lorg cáilíochtaí oifigiúla, ach atá ag iarraidh bualadh le Gaeil eile agus sult a bhaint as an teanga. Bhí na grúpaí le rannpháirtithe gan Ghaeilge ar bith den tuairim go mbeadh níos mó suime ag daoine an teanga a fhoghlaim más rud go dtiocfadh leo deiseanna a fheiceáil leis an teanga a úsáid taobh amuigh de chomhthéacs acadúil.

- Dúirt an grúpa ó thuaidh gan Ghaeilge rud a bhí coitianta i measc na ngrúpaí ar fad faoin nasc idir foghlaim agus úsáid an teanga: ní bheidh daoine toilteanach le dul amach chun an teanga a fhoghlaim go dtí go bhfeiceann siad na deiseanna leis an Ghaeilge a úsáid taobh amuigh de seo. Caithfidh na buntáistí a bheith soiléir, na féidearthachtaí a bheith ar fáil sula mbeidh daoine ag iarraidh agus spreagtha le rud éigin a dhéanamh.
- Tá sé tábhachtach go mbíonn an modh foghlama fóirsteanach do dhaoine difriúla. Ní bheidh sraith de ranganna seachtainiúla fóirsteanach do ghach duine, go háirithe más rud go mbeidh siad buartha faoin obair atá i gceist taobh amuigh de sin. Cé gur sin an bealach is fearr a bheadh ann do chuid mhaith foghlaimeoirí, tá roghanna eile, éagsúla, de dhíth le daoine eile a mhealladh isteach.
- Bíonn dianchúrsaí maith do dhaoine nach bhfuil cinnte faoin rud a bheadh i gceist le cúrsa ranganna. Tugann sé seo blaiseadh maith dóibh ar an teanga agus spreagadh le tuilleadh Gaeilge a fhoghlaim nó a úsáid, agus ní bhíonn dílseacht fhadtéarmach de dhíth leis seo a dhéanamh.
- Dúirt iad siúd nach bhfuil Gaeilge acu go mbeadh eagla orthu nó go mbeadh siad neirbhíseach iarracht a dhéanamh an teanga a labhairt i gcomhthéacs sóisialta más rud gur shíl siad go mbeadh duine eile dá gceartú nó dá gcáineadh mura raibh a gcuid gramadaí nó struchtúr na habairte cruinn. Léiríonn sé seo go bhfuil gá ann buairimh mar seo a chur in a luí, nó ní bheidh daoine sásta fiú an Ghaeilge atá acu a úsáid le daoine nua. Tá ceisteanna ann maidir le cén uair a mbogann duine éigin ar aghaidh ó bheith ag foghlaim na Gaeilge taobh istigh de sheomra ranga amháin go dtí go mbeidh siad compordach comhrá a bheith acu le duine trí Ghaeilge. Is mór an obair atá á déanamh ar an cheist seo cheánna féin, ach idir an dá linn tá sé tábhachtach nach mothaíonn daoine nach bhfuil 'go leor' Gaeilge acu leis an teanga a úsáid nuair is mian leo.

but who wish to meet other Irish speakers and to enjoy the language. The groups with participants without any Irish were of the opinion that people would be more interested in learning the language if they could see the opportunities for using the language outside of an academic context.

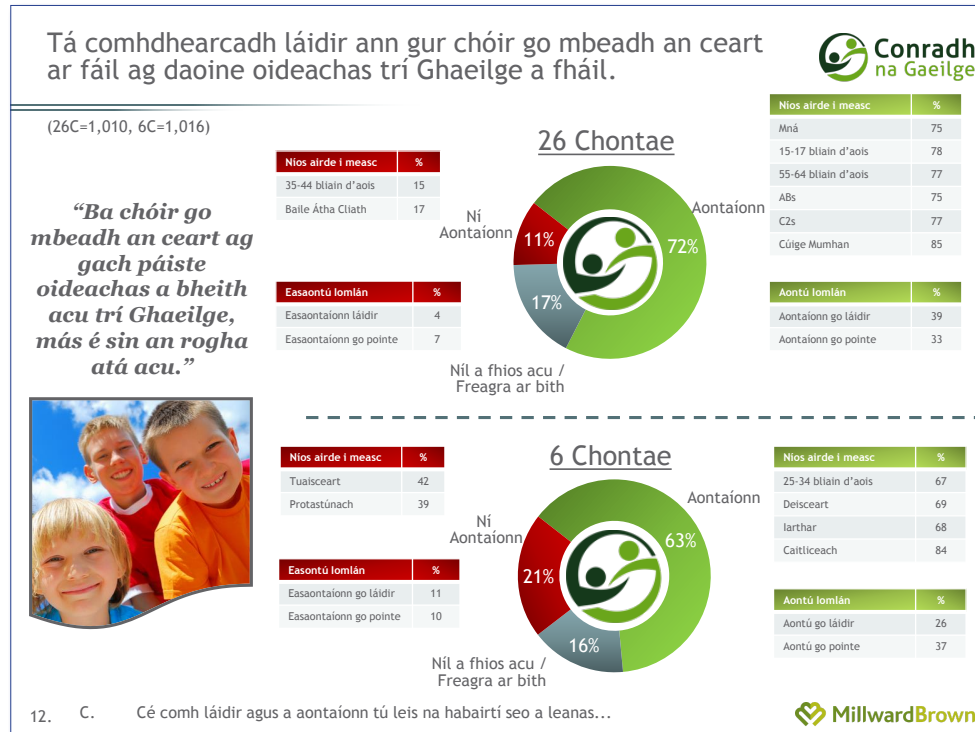
- The group in the north without any Irish stated something which was common among all the groups in relation to the link between learning and use of the language: People won't be willing to go out and learn the language until they see the opportunities to use the language. The advantages must be clear, and the possibilities must be seen before people will be motivated to do something.
- It is important that the learning methods are suitable for different people. A series of weekly classes won't be suitable for everyone, especially for those who would worry about the work that would be required outside of that. Although this may be the best option for many people, other options are needed in order to attract new people.
- Intensive courses are good for those who are unsure as to what would be involved on a course. This gives them a taste of the language and motivation to learn more Irish, and no long term requirement is needed to do this at this stage.
- Those who don't have any Irish said that they would be afraid or nervous to try and speak the language in a social context if they thought that others would correct them or criticise them if their grammar or sentence structure was incorrect. This illustrates that there is a need to reassure people in regards to these concerns, or they won't be happy to speak Irish to new people. There are questions as to when someone moves on from only being a learner of the Irish language inside a classroom to the point where they will be comfortable to have a conversation with someone through Irish. There is considerable work being done on this question already, but in the meantime it is important that people know that they have 'enough' Irish to use the language whenever they choose.

7. Gaeloideachas

(A) Torthaí an tSuirbhé:

Léirigh torthaí shuirbhé Millward Brown go bhfuil 72% den daonra ó dheas den bharúil gur chóir go mbeadh oideachas ar fáil trí mheán na Gaeilge do dhaoine ar mhaith leo é, agus aontaíonn 63% den daonra ó thuaidh leis seo fosta. Léiríonn na figiúirí seo go bhfuil tacaíocht láidir i measc an phobail, ó thuaidh agus ó dheas, i dtaca leis an Ghaeloideachas.

Figiúr 7: An aontaíonn tú gur chóir don Ghaeloideachas bheith ar fáil do dhaoine ar mhian leo é?



(B) Torthaí na bhFócasghrúpaí:

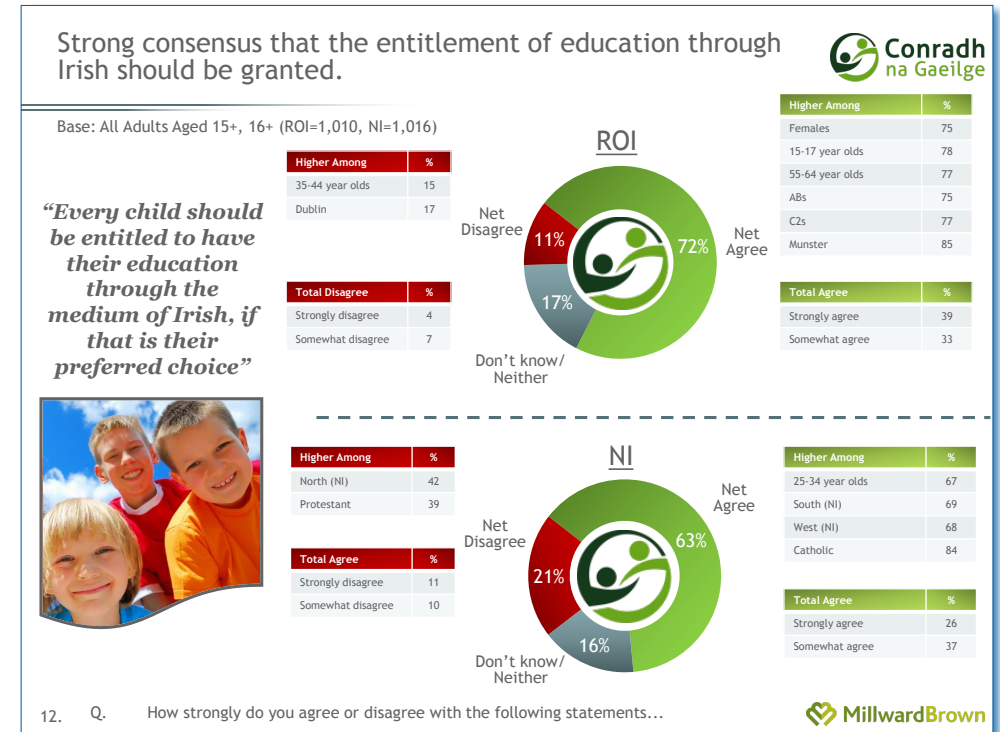
- I measc na rannpháirtithe le Gaeilge agus atá ag foghlaim na Gaeilge, moladh go hard caighdeán an oideachais atá ar fáil i nGaelscoileanna, ó thuaidh agus ó dheas. Tugadh moladh ar leith do na múinteoirí san earnáil a mbíonn orthu tuilleadh obair a dhéanamh leis na bearnaí atá ann ó thaobh áiseanna de a líonadh.
- Ba chóir go gcaithfí leis an earnáil Ghaelscolaíochta mar chuid thábhachtach den earnáil ar fad, agus nár chóir amharc ar an Ghaelscolaíocht mar rud breise nach bhfuil riachtanach. Tá gá leis an chur chuige seo a bhrú ar údarais oideachais agus ar eagraíochtaí eile.

7. Irish-Medium Education

(A) Results of the Survey:

The results of the Millward Brown survey showed that 72% of the population in the south are of the opinion that education should be available through the medium of Irish for those who wish to avail of it, and 63% of the population in the north also agree with this. These figures illustrate strong support from the public, north and south, for Irish-medium education.

Figure 7: Do you agree that Irish-medium education should be available for those who wish to avail of it?



(B) Results of the Focus Groups:

- Among the participants who have fluent Irish or who are learning the language, they highly recommended the standard of education that is available in Irish-medium schools, north and south. They had particular praise for teachers in these schools who must do additional work to fill the gaps which exist in terms of available resources.
- The Irish-medium sector should be regarded as an important part of the overall sector, and shouldn't be considered as something additional that isn't really necessary. There is a need to impress this view on education authorities and other organisations.

Scoileanna Gaeltachta

- Cuirtear tuilleadh brú ar mhúinteoirí i gceantair Ghaeltachta nuair a bhíonn orthu freastal ar riachtanais pháistí le Gaeilge ó dhúchas agus páistí eile atá ag foghlaim na teanga in aon seomra ranga amháin.
- Is léir ón mhéid a bhí le rá maidir le hoideachas i gceantair Ghaeltachta go mbeidh fáilte roimh churaclam nua atá dírithe ar chomhlíonadh riachtanais chainteoirí dúchais. Beidh an polasaí nua atá faoi chúram an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna faoi láthair lárnach leis na bearnaí seo a athrú.

Rogha an Ghaeloideachais

- Tá liostaí feithimh móra sna náiscoileanna agus sna Gaelscoileanna. Léiríonn sé seo nach bhfuil freastal ceart á dhéanamh ar earnáil na Gaelscolaíochta, agus go gciallaíonn sé seo nach féidir le tuismitheoirí bheith cinnte go mbeidh siad in ann a bpáistí a chur chuig Gaelscoil más sin an rogha atá acu. Léiríonn sé seo fosta nach bhfuil planáil cheart á dhéanamh don earnáil, ó thuaidh nó ó dheas, go háirithe ag leibhéal meánscoile.
- I dtaca le scoileanna nua a bunú, ba chóir don Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna treoir agus cuidiú a chur ar fáil do ghrúpaí áitiúla atá ag déanamh iarrachta é seo a dhéanamh.
- Tá sé tábhachtach go bhfuil tacaíocht ar fáil do thuismitheoirí nach bhfuil Gaeilge acu a bpáistí a chur chuig Gaelscoileanna.

Oiliúint Múinteoirí

- Ba chóir go mbeadh tuilleadh tacaíochta ar fáil do mhúinteoirí, do chúntóirí ranga agus do bhaill fhoirne scoile eile cur lena gcumas Gaeilge le linn a ngairmeacha. Is mór an tionchar ar féidir leis seo a imirt ar na páistí atá ag freastal ar na Gaelscoileanna seo mar gheall ar mhinicíocht na teagmhála a bhíonn ag na páistí leis na baill fhoirne eile. Fosta, bheadh sé de leas na hearnála más rud dá mbeadh baill fhoirne ag cur lena gcuid scoileanna go rialta.
- Níl aon chúrsa múinteoireachta ar fáil do mhúinteoirí trí mheán na Gaeilge ó dheas. An t-aon chúrsa den chineál seo atá ar fáil ná na cúrsaí atá ar fáil trí Choláiste Ollscoile Naomh Mhuire, Béal Feirste. Dúradh sa ghrúpa fosta go mbíonn deacrachtaí ag mic léinn múinteoireachta in amanna cleachtadh teagaisc a dhéanamh i nGaelscoileanna, agus go gciallaíonn sé seo nach mbíonn siad iomlán ullmhaithe le bheith ag teagasc i nGaelscoil nuair a bhaineann siad a gcéim amach.

Lonnaíocht Scoileanna

- Tá planáil fad-téarmach cuimsitheach de dhíth don earnáil ó thuaidh agus ó dheas. Ba chóir don Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna (ó dheas) tús áite a thabhairt d'fhorbairt na Gaelscolaíochta agus iad i mbun planála do scoileanna nua amach anseo, agus ba chóir don Roinn Oideachais (ó thuaidh) tuilleadh oibre a dhéanamh leis an dualgas reachtúla atá air i dtaca leis an Ghaeloideachas a chomhlíonadh.

Áiseanna Múinteoireachta

- Dúirt grúpaí na nGaeilgeoirí go mbíonn tuilleadh brú ar mhúinteoirí i nGaelscoileanna mar gheall ar an am breise a chaitheann siad ag cruthú áiseanna dá ranganna féin mar gheall nach bhfuil go leor rudaí oiriúnacha eile ar fáil.

Gaeltacht Schools

- More pressure is placed on teachers in Gaeltacht areas when they have to cater for the needs of children with native Irish and children who are learning Irish as a second language in the one classroom.
- It is clear from what was said about education in Gaeltacht areas that a new curriculum focussed on meeting the needs of native speakers would be welcomed. The new policy which is currently being considered by the Department of Education and Skills will be central to filling this gap.

The Option of Irish medium Education

- There are long waiting lists in Irish-medium nursery schools and primary schools. This shows that the needs of the Irish-medium education sector are not being properly met, and that parents cannot be certain that they will have the option of sending their children to an Irish-medium school if that is their choice. This shows that proper planning is not being carried out for the sector, north or south, especially in relation to secondary education.
- In relation to the establishment of new schools, the Department of Education and Skills should provide guidance and assistance to local groups who are attempting to establish new schools.
- It is important that assistance is available for parents who do not have Irish when sending their children to Irish-medium schools.

Teacher Training

- There should be more assistance available to teachers, classroom assistants and to other school staff to improve their own standard of Irish during their careers. This could have a major influence on the children who are attending Irish-medium schools because of the frequency of contact between these children and other staff members. Also, it is to the benefit of the sector if staff members are continually developing their own skills.
- There is no teacher training course available in the south through Irish. The only course of this nature which is available through Irish are the courses available in St. Mary's University College, Belfast. It was also said in the group that students have difficulties in securing places to do teaching practice in Irish-medium schools, and that this means that they aren't entirely prepared to teach in an Irish-medium school once they receive their degree.

School Locations

- Long term comprehensive planning is needed for the sector, north and south. The Department of Education and Skills (south) should give priority to the development of Irish-medium schools when planning new school in the future, and the Department of Education (north) should undertake extra work to fulfil its statutory duty in relation to Irish-medium education.

Teaching Resources

- The groups with fluent Irish speakers said that there is additional pressure on teachers in Irish-medium schools because of the additional time that they spending creating resources for their own classes because of a lack of other suitable material.

- Mhol an grúpa le Gaeilge i mBéal Feirste áit agus áis lárnach a chruthú ar líne ina mbeadh múinteoirí Gaelscoile in ann a gcuid áiseanna a roinnt, saor in aisce. Is minic a dhéantar é seo san earnáil Bhéarla, agus dúirt an grúpaí go gcuidíonn na háiseanna inrochtana seo go mór le múinteoirí.

Tacaíocht do Thuismitheoirí

- Dúirt na grúpaí seo ar fad go síleann siad go mbíonn tuismitheoirí buartha faoina gcuid Gaeilge féin agus iad ag déanamh cinntí faoina bpáistí a chur chuig Gaelscoil. Dúirt siad go mbeadh siad buartha nach mbeadh siad in ann cuidiú leis an obair bhaile mar is ceart, agus go gcuirfeadh sé seo isteach ar oideachas an pháiste.

Úsáid na Gaeilge taobh amuigh den chóras foirmiúil

- Tá deiseanna de dhíth ar pháistí atá ag freastal ar Ghaelscoileanna a gcuid Gaeilge a úsáid taobh amuigh den scoil. Is féidir é seo a dhéanamh trí chlubanna óige, agus moladh an obair atá á déanamh ag eagraíochtaí ar nós Ógras, Feachtas, Cumann na bhFiann, Spleodar agus Fóram na nÓg leis na deiseanna seo a chur ar fáil do pháistí agus do dhaoine óga.
- Is gá amharc ar na clubanna seo agus ar na deiseanna a chuireann siad ar fáil do na páistí agus do na daoine óga seo mar rud atá rí-thábhachtach d'fhorbairt phobal na Gaeilge agus do na daoine óga seo. D'aontaigh na rannpháirtithe ar fad, idir iad siúd a raibh Gaeilge acu agus na faisnéiseoirí nach raibh Ghaeilge acu, go mbainfidh daoine tuilleadh úsáide as a gcuid Gaeilge más rud go mbaineann siad sult as na deiseanna atá acu í a fhoghlaim agus a úsáid. Tá sé seo níos tábhachtaí arís do pháistí, agus tá an comhthéacs sóisialta an-tábhachtach leis na daoine seo a spreagadh leis an Ghaeilge a úsáid agus iad réidh le scoil.
- Ó thuaidh, tá cinnteacht de dhíth ar na hoibrithe óige atá ag obair san earnáil Ghaeilge, agus tá pleanáil de dhíth le freastal ar an éileamh seo in earnáil atá ag forbairt go gasta.

Sainriachtanais Oideachais

- Tugadh sampla eile de na fadhbanna a bhíonn ann nuair nach mbíonn seirbhísí ar fáil mar is ceart trí Ghaeilge, nuair atá diagnóis le déanamh ar pháiste a bhfuil sainriachtanais oideachais acu. Ní féidir é seo a dhéanamh ar bhealach atá cothrom don pháiste más rud nach bhfuil na huirlisí agus an saineolas ceánna ar fáil trí Ghaeilge agus atá trí Bhéarla. Tá bearna ollmhór ann sna seirbhísí atá ar fáil do pháistí agus do dhaoine óga le sainriachtanais oideachais sa dhá earnáil.

- The group with Irish in Belfast recommended the setting up of a central online space where teachers in Irish-medium schools could share resources, free of charge. This often takes place in the English-medium sector, and the group stated that these accessible resources are very helpful to teachers.

Support for Parents

- All of the groups said that they thought that parents worry about their own level of Irish when making a decision about sending their children to an Irish-medium school. They said that they worry that they will not be able to support their children with homework properly, and that this would affect the child's education.

Use of Irish outside of the formal system

- Opportunities are needed for young people who attended Irish-medium schools to use their Irish outside of school. This can be effectively done through youth clubs, and there was praise for the work that is being done by organisations such as Ógras, Feachtas, Cumann na bhFiann, Spleodar and Fóram na nÓg to provide these opportunities for children and young people.
- These clubs and the opportunities that they provide for need to be considered as something vitally important to the development of Irish language communities and to these young people. All of the participants, both those with and without Irish, agreed that people will make more use of their Irish if they enjoy the opportunities that they have to learn and use the language. This is even more important for children, and the social context is very important to encourage the use of Irish once these children finish school.
- In the north, certainty is needed by youth workers in the Irish-medium sector, and long-term planning is needed to cater for the demand in this quickly developing sector.

Special Educational Needs

- An example of the problems which arise when services aren't properly available through Irish is when a diagnosis is given to a child with special educational needs. This cannot be done in a way that is fair to the child if the same instruments and expertise are not available through Irish as are available through English. There is a considerable gap in the services that are available for children and young people with special educational needs in the two sectors.

8. Seachtain na Gaeilge

Is féile náisiúnta í Seachtain na Gaeilge a dhéanann ceiliúradh ar an Ghaeilge trí thacaíocht a thabhairt do chuid mhór imeachtaí in Éirinn agus thar lear, trí bholscaireacht a dhéanamh faoin teanga agus trí dhaoine a spreagadh le tuilleadh Gaeilge a labhairt le linn na féile agus ina diaidh. Bíonn scoileanna, grúpaí pobail, clubanna óige agus áiteanna oibre páirteach ann gach bliain.

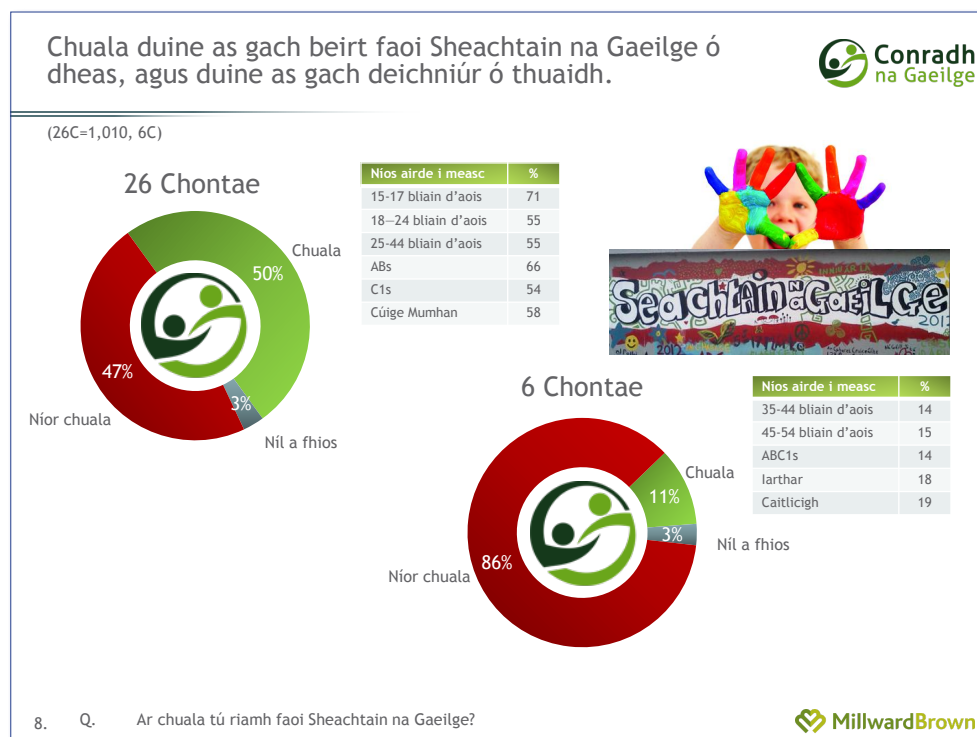
(A) Torthaí an tSuirbhé:

Cuireadh dhá cheist cainníochtúil sa suirbhé maidir le Seachtain na Gaeilge le leibhéal rannpháirtíochta a mheas. Is iad na ceisteanna a cuireadh ná:

- Ar chuala tú i riamh faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge?
- Ar ghlac tú páirt i riamh in imeacht de chuid Seachtain na Gaeilge?

Seo a leanas na torthaí ón tsuirbhé:

Figiúr 8: Ar chuala tú i riamh faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge?



Tá difear súntasach idir líon na ndaoine a chuala faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge ó thuaidh agus ó dheas, 11% agus 50% agus tá an figiúr seo iontach ard i measc daoine óga ó dheas ach go háirithe.

8. Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge is a national festival which celebrates the Irish language and supports many events in Ireland and overseas, through promotional work for the language and by encouraging people to speak more Irish during the festival and afterwards. Schools, community groups, youth clubs and workplaces take part each year.

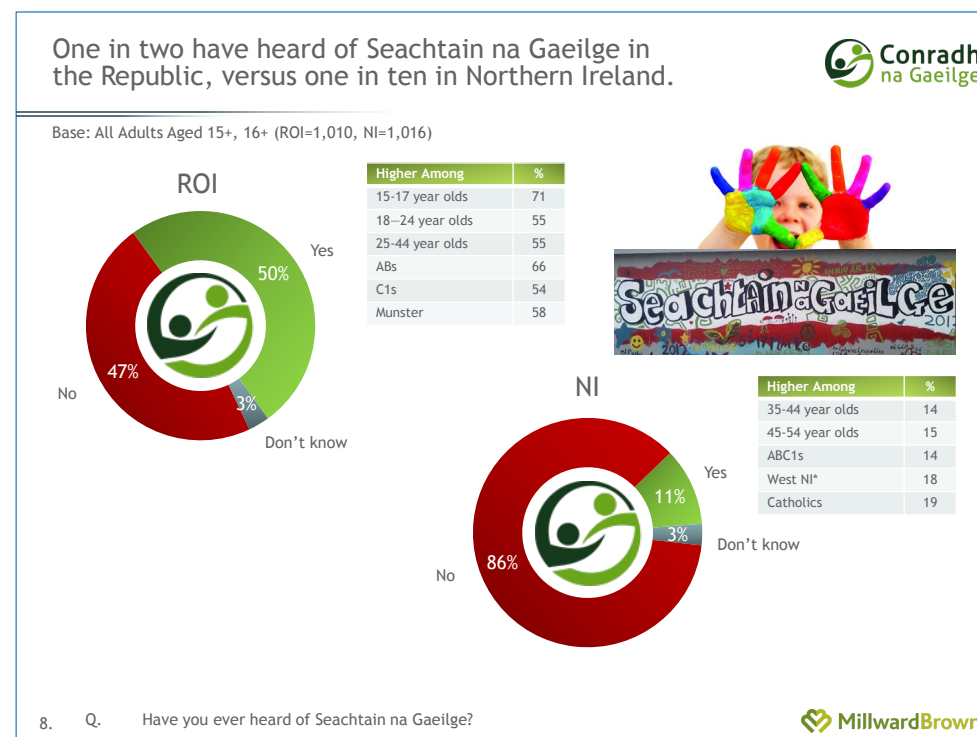
A) Results of the Survey:

Two quantitative questions were asked in the survey in relation to Seachtain na Gaeilge to assess levels of participation. The questions asked were:

- Have you ever heard of Seachtain na Gaeilge?
- Have you ever taken part in an event as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge?

Below are the results of the survey:

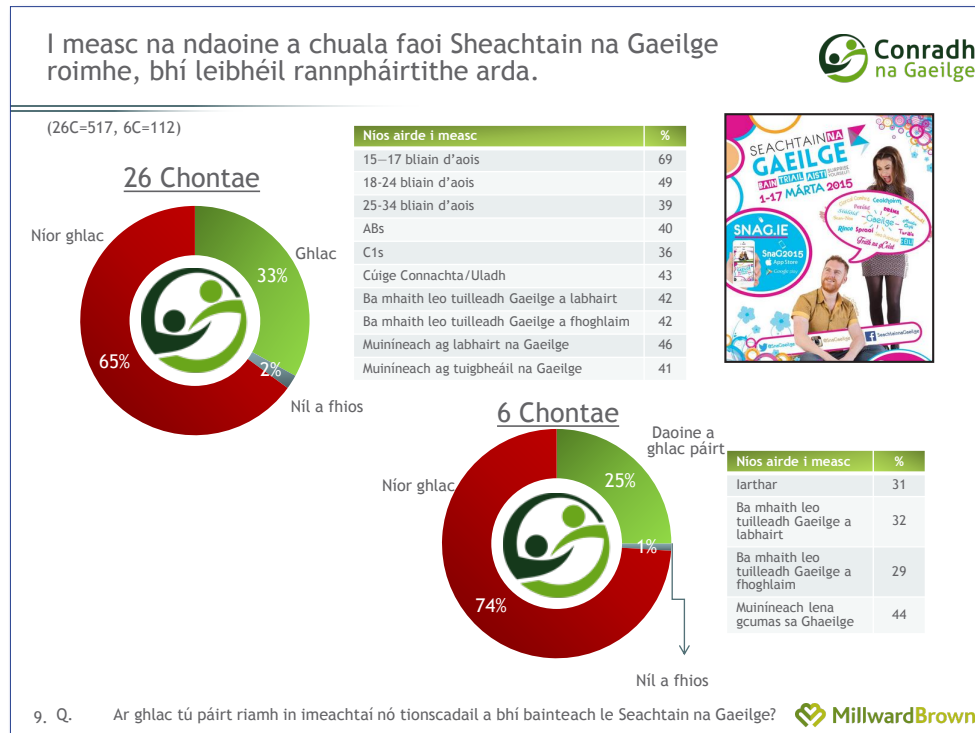
Figure 8: Have you ever heard of Seachtain na Gaeilge?



There is a considerable difference between the amount of people who have heard of Seachtain na Gaeilge in the north and in the south, and this number is particularly high for young people in the south.

Le cinntiú go raibh na rannpháirtithe ar fad sna fócasghrúpaí in ann ionchur cothrom a bheith acu sa phlé thart ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge, tugadh míniú do na grúpaí ar cad é atá i gceist le Seachtain na Gaeilge agus na spriocanna atá taobh thiar den fhéile. Bhí sé soiléir go bhfuil tuairimí difriúla ag daoine faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge ó thuaidh agus ó dheas. Sa tuaisceart, bhí iad siúd a bhí eolach ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge ag caint ar na himeachtaí a bhíonn ar fáil cuid mhór, agus ar na deiseanna difriúla a bhí ann le Gaeilge a úsáid agus le bualadh le Gaeilgeoirí nua. Ó dheas rinneadh níos mó plé ar feiceálacht na Gaeilge sna meáin le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge.

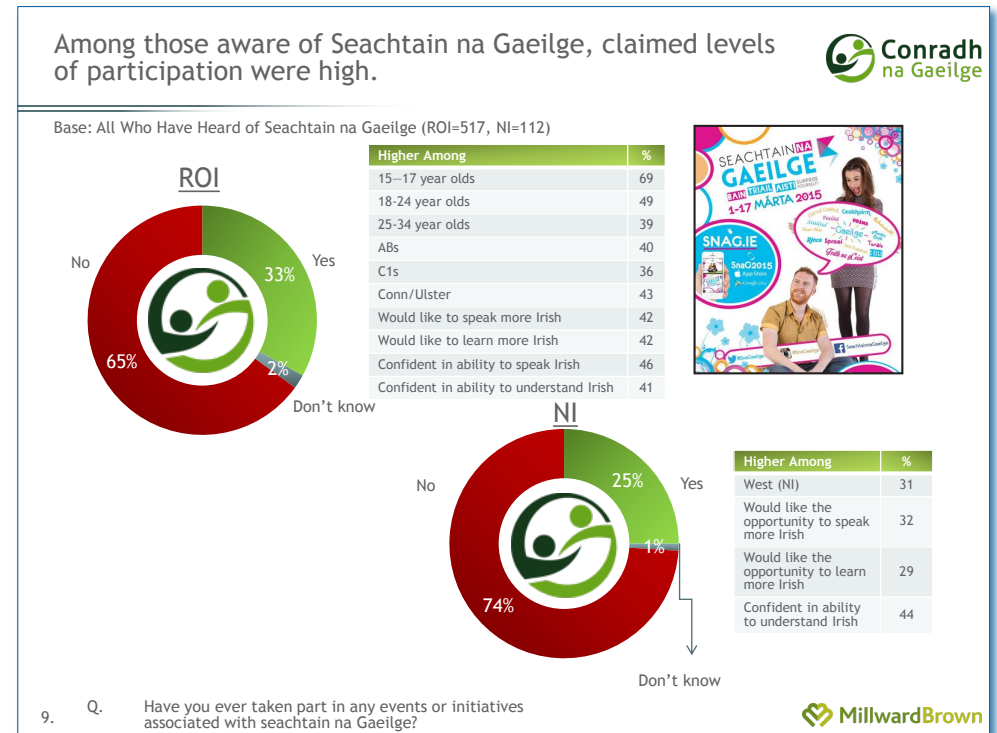
Figióir 9: Ar ghlac tú páirt i riamh in imeacht de chuid Seachtain na Gaeilge?



Bhí figiúirí arda i measc na ndaoine a ghlac páirt in imeachtaí de chuid Seachtain na Gaeilge i measc iad siúd atá muiníneach lena gcumas Gaeilge agus atá ag iarraidh níos mó Gaeilge a fhoghlaim nó a úsáid.

To ensure that all of the participants in the focus groups were able to have a fair input in the discussion of Seachtain na Gaeilge, an explanation was given to the groups on what is involved with Seachtain na Gaeilge and the aims of the festival. It was clear that there were different opinions about Seachtain na Gaeilge north and south. In the north, the discussion among those who were aware of Seachtain na Gaeilge focussed very much on the events that are available and the opportunities that there are to use Irish and to meet other Irish speakers. In the south there was more discussion around the visibility of Irish during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

Figure 9: Did you ever take part in an event as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge?



There were high figures among those who took part in events as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge among those who are confident in their ability to speak Irish and who wish to learn or speak more Irish.

(B) Torthaí na bhFócasghrúpaí

Le cur leis an eolas a tháinig chun tosaigh sa tsuirbhé, rinneadh plé leis na fócasghrúpaí ar fad maidir le Seachtain na Gaeilge, na spriocanna atá taobh thiar den fhéile agus maidir leis na himeachtaí a bhíonn ag titim amach mar chuid den fhéile. Le cinntiú go raibh inchur cothrom ag gach duine de na rannpháirtithe sa chomhrá seo, tugadh míniú do dhaoine nach raibh a fhios acu cad é atá i gceist le Seachtain na Gaeilge.

- I measc na rannpháirtithe nach bhfuil aon Ghaeilge acu, bhí an grúpa ó dheas ar an eolas faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge agus thuig siad a mbíonn i gceist leis an fhéile. Ní raibh an cás amhlaidh ó thuaidh. Luaigh an grúpa ó dheas go raibh siad ar an eolas faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge mar gheall ar na meáin – bíonn an Ghaeilge agus Seachtain na Gaeilge i mbéal iriseoirí don fhéile ar fad – ach mar gheall nach dtarlaíonn sé sin ó thuaidh ar an bhealach cheánna, ní bhíonn cuid mhór eolais ag daoine faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge taobh amuigh de phobal na Gaeilge.
- Bhí cuid mhór de na rannpháirtithe den bharúil go bhfuil Seachtain na Gaeilge níos dírithe ar pháistí scoile ná ar ghrúpa ar bith eile. Bhí an tuairim seo níos láidre i measc daoine gan Ghaeilge ar bith.
- Luaigh cuid de na grúpaí gur shíl siad go dtiocfadh le Seachtain na Gaeilge titim amach ag am ar bith le linn na bliana, agus nach bhfuil sé riachtanach don fhéile go dtarlaíonn sé le linn imeachtaí a bhaineann le Lá Fhéile Pádraig. Is iomaí imeacht a bhíonn ag tarlú le linn na seachtainí seo agus tá seans ann go mbeadh Seachtain na Gaeilge ábalta níos mó airde a tharraingt ar imeachtaí de chuid na féile mura raibh sé in iomaíocht leis na himeachtaí seo.
- Moladh úsáid na Gaeilge i measc chraoltóirí Gaeilge le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge, go háirithe ar RTÉ, agus cuireadh ceist cén fáth nach féidir leo an iarracht seo a dhéanamh le linn na bliana an Ghaeilge a thabhairt isteach ina gcuid cláracha.
- Bheadh sé maith dá mbeadh na hambasadóirí inaitheanta do dhaoine taobh amuigh de shaol na Gaeilge. Leis seo, bheadh sé soiléir nach mbaineann imeachtaí Sheachtain na Gaeilge le daoine atá líofa nó atá ag foghlaim na Gaeilge cheánna féin amháin.
- Mhol cuid mhaith de na grúpaí Rith mar imeacht a mheallann daoine isteach nach bhfuil Gaeilge acu mar gheall go bhfuil sé infheicthe mar imeacht agus sultmhar simplí do ghach duine a bhíonn páirteach ann.
- Luaigh daoine gur mhaith leo tuilleadh imeachtaí cultúrtha a fheiceáil mar chuid den fhéile, mar cheiliúradh ar ghach gné de chultúr na hÉireann.
- Luaigh daoine gur mhaith leo freastal ar imeachtaí sóisialta, ach luaigh foghlaimoirí agus daoine gan Ghaeilge nach mbeadh a fhios acu an dtiocfadh leo freastal ar na himeachtaí seo gan Ghaeilge. Mar sin, tá sé tábhachtach go mbeadh na himeachtaí seo fógraithe ar bhealach a chuireann daoine atá ag foghlaim na teanga ar a suaimhneas maidir leis an cheist seo. Baineann sé seo leis an fhocláíocht agus leis an áit ina bhfuil na fógraí seo le feiceáil fosta.
- Rud comónta a bhí le rá ag na grúpaí ar fad a bhí eolach ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge ná go dtaitníonn an taobh sóisialta den fhéile leo. Dúirt na Gaeilgeoirí agus na foghlaimoirí gur bealach maith é seo le cainteoirí Gaeilge nua, tríd na himeachtaí a bhíonn ar fáil le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge.
- Dúirt daoine sna grúpaí gan Ghaeilge go mbeadh níos mó seans ann go rachadh siad chuig imeacht trí Ghaeilge nó chuig imeacht dátheangach dá mbeadh a fhios acu go raibh a gcara nó a gcairde ag dul cheánna féin. Ní bheadh aon bhrú i gceist mar gheall air sin agus bheadh a fhios acu go dtiocfadh leo sult a bhaint as an oíche.

(B) Results of the Focus Groups:

To add to the information that was found in the survey, discussions were held with the focus groups in relation to Seachtain na Gaeilge, the aims behind the festival and in relation to the events that happen as part of the festival. To ensure that each of the participants could have a fair input in this conversation, those who weren't aware of Seachtain na Gaeilge were given an explanation beforehand.

- Among the participants without any Irish, the group in the south was aware of Seachtain na Gaeilge and they understood what was involved with the festival. This wasn't the case in the north. The group in the south mentioned that they were aware of Seachtain na Gaeilge because of the media – the Irish language and Seachtain na Gaeilge are to the fore in the media through the festival – but because this doesn't happen in the north in the same way, there isn't much information known about Seachtain na Gaeilge outside of the Irish language community.
- There were many participants who were of the opinion that Seachtain na Gaeilge is more focussed on school children than on any other group. This opinion was stronger among those without any Irish.
- Some of the groups mentioned that Seachtain na Gaeilge could take place at any time of the year, and that it isn't necessary for the festival to take place during the other activities connected to St. Patrick's Day. There are many events which take place around these weeks and there is a chance that Seachtain na Gaeilge would be able to draw more attention to itself if it weren't in competition with these other events.
- The use of Irish by broadcaster during Seachtain na Gaeilge was praised, particularly on RTÉ and it was asked why this couldn't be the case that broadcasters would bring the Irish language into their programmes in this way throughout the year.
- It would be good if the ambassadors were recognisable to people outside of the Irish language community. With this, it would be clear that Seachtain na Gaeilge isn't only relevant to those who already have Irish or who are learning Irish.
- Some of the groups praised Rith as an event which attracts people who don't have any Irish because it is so visible as an event and it is simple and enjoyable for everyone to get involved in.
- People mentioned that they would like to see more cultural events as part of the festival, as part of a celebration of every aspect of Irish culture.
- People mentioned that they would like to attend social events, but learners and those without Irish mentioned that they wouldn't know if they could attend these events without Irish. Therefore, it is important that these events are advertised in a way which reassures those who are learning the language on this point. This is relevant to the wording of adverts and the location in which they are placed.
- Something which all of the groups who had heard of Seachtain na Gaeilge had in common was that they enjoyed the social side of the festival. The fluent Irish speakers and the learners said that it is a good way to meet with new Irish speakers, through the events that are organised as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge.
- People in the groups without Irish said that they would be more likely to attend an event that is through Irish or bilingual if they knew a friend or friends going already. This means that there wouldn't be the same pressure because of this and they would know that they could enjoy the night.

9. An Ghaeilge agus Cúrsaí Gnó

(A) Torthaí an tSuirbhé:

Le cúrsaí eacnamaíochta mar atá faoi láthair, tá sé riachtanach don lucht gnó bheith ag aimsiú bealaí nua lena n-earraí a dhíol agus le custaiméirí a mhealladh chun a gcuid seirbhísí a cheannach. Chuige sin, cuireadh dhá cheist i suirbhé Millward Brown maidir leis an pointe seo agus an ról atá nó an ról ar féidir bheith ag an Ghaeilge i dtaca leis na cúrsaí seo. Ba iad na ceisteanna seo ná:

- An aontaíonn tú gur Ghnéith Uathúil Dhíolacáin (GUD) í an Ghaeilge?
- An aontaíonn tú gur féidir leis an Ghaeilge cur go dearfach le forbairt eacnamaíochta an oileáin?

Figiúr 10: An aontaíonn tú gur GUD í an Ghaeilge?



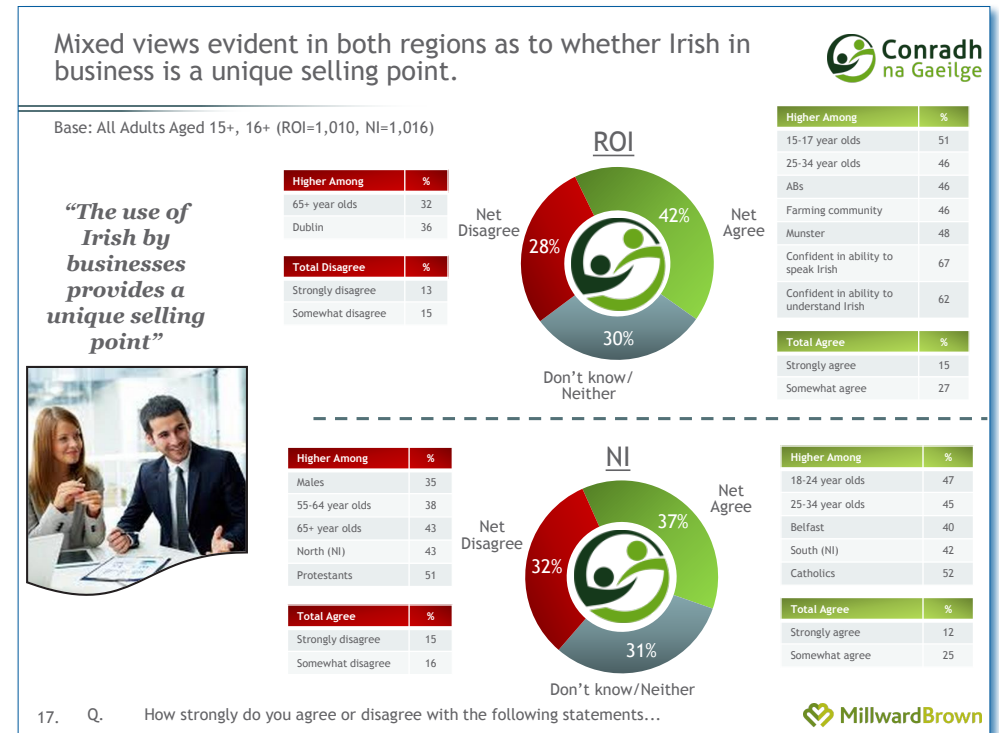
9. The Irish Language and Business

A) Results of the Survey:

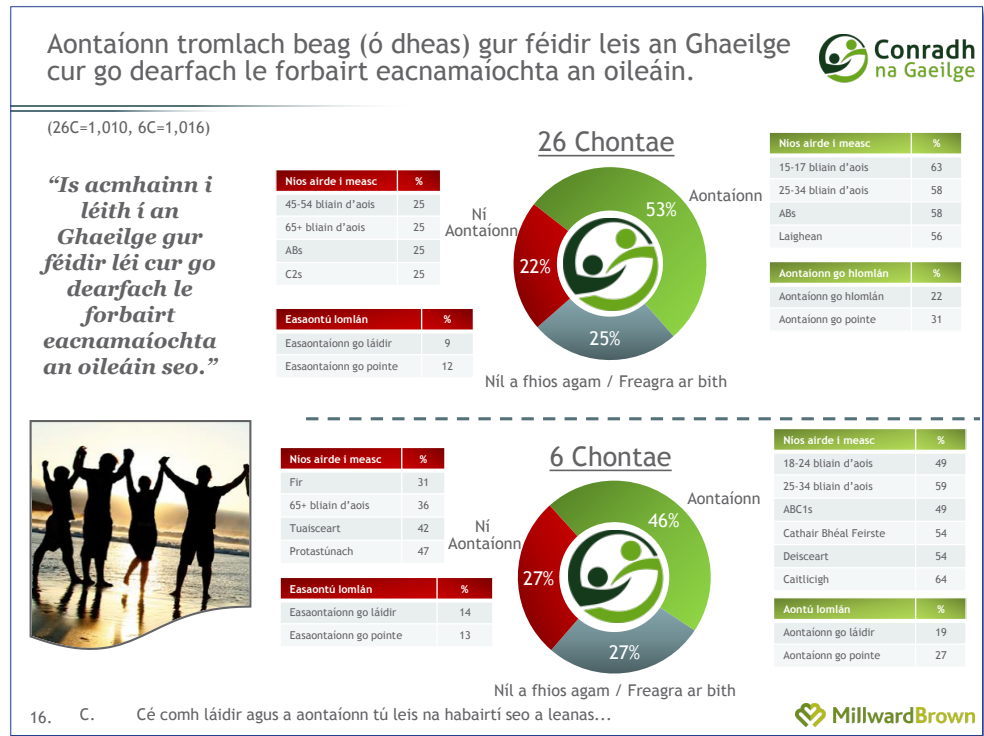
With economic matters as they are at present, it is essential that those in business find new ways to sell their goods and to attract customers to buy their goods. Therefore, two quantitative questions were asked in the Millward Brown survey on this point and on the role that the Irish language has or could have in relation to these matters. These questions were:

- Do you agree that the Irish language is a Unique Selling Point (USP)?
- Do you agree that the Irish language can positively contribute to the economic development of the island?

Figure 10: Do you agree that the Irish language is a USP?



Figióir 11: An aontaíonn tú gur féidir leis an Ghaeilge cur go dearfach le forbairt eacnamaíochta an oileáin?



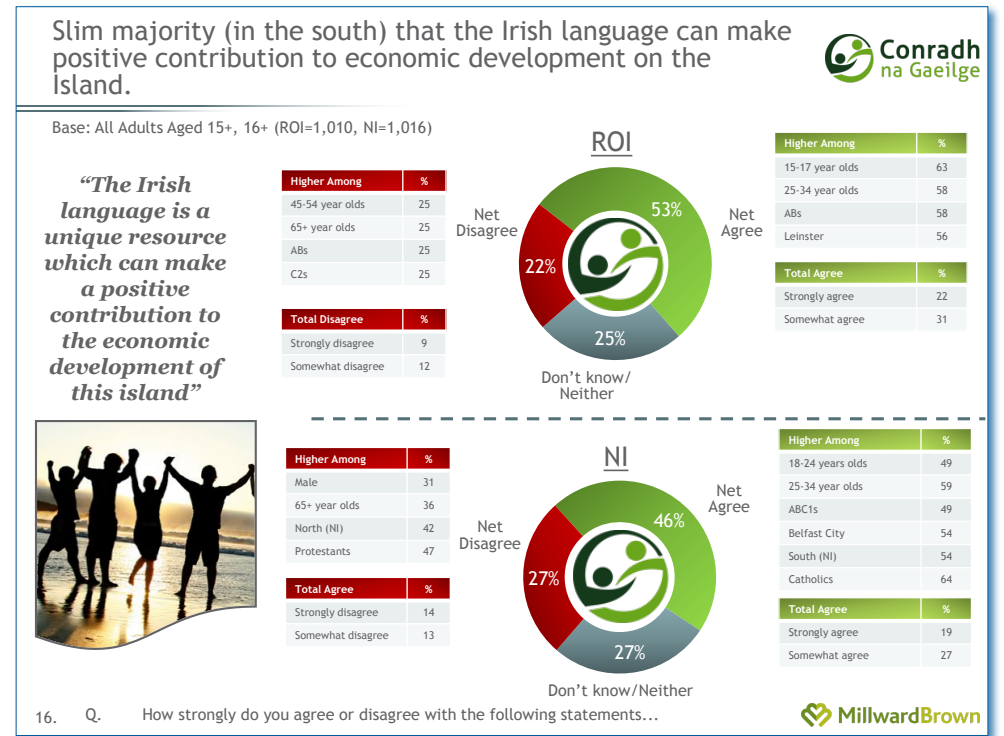
Tá na staitisticí seo a tháinig ó shuirbhé Millward Brown an-dearfach ar fad i leith na Gaeilge. Creideann 42% de dhaoine ó dheas agus 37% de dhaoine ó thuaidh gur GUD í an Ghaeilge i gcúrsaí gnó, agus aontaíonn 53% de dhaoine ó dheas agus 46% de dhaoine ó thuaidh gur féidir leis an Ghaeilge cur go dearfach le forbairt eacnamaíochta an oileáin seo. Bhí figiúirí arda ó dhaoine óga i dtaca leis na ceisteanna seo, ó thuaidh agus ó dheas.

(B) Torthaí na bhFócasghrúpaí:

Rinneadh plé cáilíochtúil sna fócasghrúpaí ar an ábhar seo trí dhá cheist dhifriúla a phlé. Ar dtús báire cuireadh ceist ar na grúpaí an mbeadh siad níos toilteanaí earraí nó seirbhísí a cheannach mar gheall go raibh baint acu leis an Ghaeilge. Ansin, cuireadh ceist ar na grúpaí cad é a meallfadh siad chun earraí nó seirbhísí Gaeilge a cheannach. Seo a leanas na pointí a luaíodh:

- I measc na ngrúpaí le foghlaimoírí agus le Gaeilgeoírí líofa, bhí tuairim láidir ann go mbainfeadh siad úsáid as seirbhísí Gaeilge nó go ndéanfadh siad iarracht earraí Gaeilge a cheannach nuair is féidir.

Figure 11: Do you agree that the Irish language can positively contribute to the economic development of the island?



The statistics that came from the Millward Brown survey are very positive here in relation to the Irish language. 42% of people in the south and 37% of people in the north believe that the Irish language is a USP for businesses, and 53% of people in the south and 46% of people in the north agree that Irish can positively contribute to the economic development of this island. There were strong results from young people in relation to these questions, north and south.

(B) Results of the Focus Groups:

A qualitative discussion was held in the focus groups on this subject with two different questions. Firstly, groups were asked whether they would be more willing to buy goods or services because of a link with the Irish language. Secondly, the groups were asked what would attract them to buy an Irish language good or service. Below are the points that were mentioned:

- Among the groups with learners or with fluent Irish speakers, there was a strong opinion that they would use Irish language services or that they would make an effort to buy Irish language products whenever possible.

- Dúradh go minic le linn na ngrúpaí seo go mbeadh sé úsáideach dá mbeadh bunachar de sheirbhísí Gaeilge ar fáil le gruagairí, fioclóirí, dlíodóirí agus eile ina measc.
- Moladh go dtiocfadh le comhlachtaí idirnáisiúnta tuilleadh úsáide a bhaint as an Ghaeilge ar bhrandáil agus ar earraí bolscaireachta mar gheall go seasfaidh na hearraí nó an brandáil sin amach mar rudaí Éireannacha.
- It was frequently mentioned that it would be useful if there was a database of Irish language service providers available with hairdressers, dentists, lawyers etc. included.
- It was recommended that international companies could make more use of the Irish language on branding and on publicity materials as then these goods or branding would stand out as something Irish.

10. Ról na Gaeilge sa tSochaí

I 2015, d'fhoilsigh NISRA (Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency) agus an Roinn Cultúir, Ealaíon agus Fóilíochta tuairisc maidir le 'Úsáid na Gaeilge.' Dar leis an tuairisc seo, d'aontaigh 49% de na daoine a cuireadh faoi agallamh go bhfuil an Ghaeilge tábhachtach do chultúr na hÉireann. Mar gheall air seo, rinneadh plé le linn na bhfócasghrúpaí le daoine gan Ghaeilge ar bith agus atá ag foghlaim na Gaeilge faoin ról atá ag an Ghaeilge maidir le cúrsaí cultúrtha agus an ról atá ag an Ghaeilge sa tsochaí anseo. Ba é an sprioc a bhí taobh thiar de seo ná chun léargas a fháil ar na dearcthaí atá ag daoine ar an Ghaeilge i measc daoine nach n-úsáideann í ar bhonn laethúil.

- Rinneadh plé faoi na buntáistí a bhaineann le teangacha a fhoghlaim go ginearálta, go háirithe do pháistí óga. Dúradh fosta go mbaineann cuid mhór buntáistí le sochaí dhátheangach a bheith ann, go léiríonn sé seo éagsúlacht sa daonra agus gur rud maith é seo. Rinneadh trácht go minic ar thíortha eile atá dátheangach gan stró, agus cuireadh ceisteanna faoi na fáthanna nach féidir leis an tír seo amhlaidh a dhéanamh.
- I dtaca le cúrsaí turasóireachta, tá sé tábhachtach go bhfuil an Ghaeilge le feiceáil agus in úsáid go poiblí. Beidh daoine ag dúil leis an teanga a fheiceáil agus iad ag teacht ar cuairt go hÉirinn, agus ba chóir úsáid a bhaint aisti le cur leis an eispéaras a bheas ag turasóirí anseo. Fiú nuair nach bhfuil an teanga ag daoine, tá sé fós tábhachtach go bhfuil sí le feiceáil.
- Ó thuaidh, dúradh cé go bhfuil an dearcadh ag daoine áirithe go bhfuil nasc idir an teanga agus an choimhlint, níor mhothaigh duine ar bith sna grúpaí mar sin. Mhothaigh siad go bhfuil an teanga uileghabhálach, agus gur féidir le daoine a thabhairt le chéile tríd an teanga mar gheall ar an oidhreacht roinnte atá aici. Cé go bhfuil an íomha diúltach sin le feiceáil sna meáin agus ó pholaiteoirí áirithe go minic, ní sin an t-eispéaras atá ag daoine.
- I measc na bhfoghlaimoirí, dúradh go bhfuil dlúthnasc idir an Ghaeilge, féiniúlacht na hÉireann agus stair na tíre. Bhí an bharúil seo le feiceáil i measc na ngrúpaí le daoine gan Ghaeilge fosta go pointe, agus bhí barúlacha ann go raibh an Ghaeilge tábhachtach sa tsochaí go ginearálta, fiú do dhaoine nár mhothaigh nasc eatarthu féin agus an teanga.
- Labhair na grúpaí gan Ghaeilge cuid mhór ar an táithí a bhí acu leis an teanga agus iad ar scoil. Bhí meascán de bharúlacha dearfacha agus diúltacha le linn an chomhrá seo. Dúirt iad siúd nár fhoghlaim an teanga agus iad ar scoil go raibh aiféala orthu nach raibh an deis acu an teanga a fhoghlaim agus iad ar scoil. Rud comónta a bhí ann idir na grúpaí seo ar fad ná gur mhothaigh siad go raibh sé tábhachtach go mbeadh na deiseanna chun Gaeilge a úsáid taobh amuigh den scoil soiléir. Moladh gur chóir go mbeadh na deiseanna fostaíochta á n-aibhsiú chun daoine a mhealladh i dtreo na teanga agus iad fós ar scoil.

10. Role of the Irish Language in Society

In 2015, NISRA and DCAL published a report on the 'Use of the Irish Language.' According to this report, 49% of those interviewed agreed that the Irish language is an important element of Irish culture. Due to this, discussions were held during the focus groups with those who have little or no Irish and with those who were learning Irish about the role that the Irish language has in cultural matters and in society here. The aim of this was to gain an insight into the views that people have in relation to the language among those who don't use the language on a daily basis.

- Discussion was held on the advantages connected to learning languages generally, especially for young children. It was also said that there are many advantages related to bilingual societies, that this shows diversity within the population and that this is a good thing. Other countries who are bilingual without difficulty were mentioned, and questions were raised as to why this country cannot do the same.
- In terms of tourism, it is important that the Irish language is visible and used publicly. People will be expecting to see the Irish language when they come to a visit to Ireland, and this should be used in order to add to the unique experience tourists have here. Even when people don't have the language, it is still important that it is visible.
- In the north, it was said that even though there is a view among certain people that there is a link between the language and the conflict, those in the group did not feel that way. They felt that the language is inclusive, and that people can be brought together through the language because it is part of a shared heritage. Even though that negative image is often seen in the media and from certain politicians, this is not the experience that people have.
- Among the learners, it was said that there are close links between the Irish language, Irish identity and the history of the country. This opinion was also seen to a point in the groups with people without any Irish, and there was a strong opinion that the Irish language is important to society generally, even for people who do not feel a link between themselves and the language.
- The groups without Irish spoke a great deal about the experience that they had with the language when they were at school. There were a mixture of positive and negative opinions throughout this conversation. Those who didn't learn the language when they were at school said that they regret that they didn't have this opportunity while at school. Something which was common in all the groups was that they felt that it was important that the opportunities to use the language outside of the school must be clear. It was recommended that the employment opportunities connected to the language should be highlighted in order to attract people to the language while they are still at school.

11. PEIG (Pobal Eolas Ilmheán Gaeilge)

Is ardán ilmheán nua é PEIG (Pobal Eolas Ilmheán Gaeilge) a chuireann eolas faoin Ghaeilge, nuacht faoin Ghaeilge agus faoi na Gaeltachta ar fáil. Fosta, is féidir le daoine imeachtaí áitiúla a chlárú, mar shampla ranganna, ciorcal comhrá srl, agus bíonn an t-eolas seo le feiceáil ag gach duine atá ar an suíomh. Tá sé ar fáil ar líne agus trí Aip gutháin chliste.

Le cinntiú go raibh gach duine de na rannpháirtithe in ann bheith páirteach sa chuid seo den chomhrá mar is ceart, léiríodh suíomh PEIG don ghrúpa ar ríomhaire agus ar an Aip gutháin. Míníodh spriocanna an tsuímh do na grúpaí agus rinneadh cur síos ar na nithe difriúla atá ar fáil. Bhí eolas faoi PEIG ag an chuid is mó de na rannpháirtithe a raibh Gaeilge acu, meascán den eolas seo ag na foghlaimeoirí agus ní raibh eolas ar bith faoi PEIG ag duine ar bith sna grúpaí nach bhfuil aon bhaint acu leis an Ghaeilge. Bhí sé seo amhlaidh ó thuaidh agus ó dheas.

Bhí na grúpaí ar fad ar aon intinn gur smaoineamh maith atá sa suíomh seo agus go bhfuil spás ann dá leithéid. Luaigh cuid de na Gaeilgeoirí líofa agus foghlaimeoirí go bhfuil gá ann le suíomh mar seo anois nach bhfuil Gaelport ar fáil, go háirithe i dtaca le folúntais agus fógraí poiblí i saol na Gaeilge. Dúradh fosta go mbeadh sé úsáideach do dhaoine dá mbeadh na scéalta nuachta ar fad a bhaineann leis an Ghaeilge in aon áit amháin mar atá ar PEIG. Mhol roinnt daoine go bhfuil an tseirbhís seo ar fáil trí Aip fosta, mar aithnítear go bhfuil daoine ag baint níos mó úsáid as seirbhísí mar seo ar a ngutháin ná ar ríomhairí anois.

Mar gheall ar an dátheangachas ar an suíomh, shíl an dhá ghrúpa d'foghlaimeoirí go mbeadh seo ina áis úsáideach dóibh. Shíl siad gur suíomh praiticiúil, úsáideach a bheadh ann. Mhol siad go mbeadh áiseanna foghlama ar fáil d'foghlaimeoirí. Dúirt cúpla duine fosta go mbeadh sé úsáideach dá mbeadh cuid faoi leith ar an tsuíomh do mhic léinn 3ú leibhéal, agus go mbeadh siad in ann áiseanna a fháil, taighde eile a lorg srl.

Thaitin leáscáil na n-imeachtaí leis na grúpaí ar fad, agus luaigh cúpla duine go mbíonn fonn orthu freastal ar imeachtaí trí Ghaeilge ach nach mbíonn siad cinnte faoi na rudaí a bhíonn ar fáil go háitiúil, agus mar sin go mbeadh PEIG go mór ina chuidiú dóibh. Luaigh cuid acu fosta go mbeadh sé maith dá mbeadh na himeachtaí seo ar fáil i bhfoirm liosta fosta más féidir, mar gheall go mbeadh sé sin níos soiléire do dhaoine áirithe.

I measc na ndaoine nach bhfuil aon Ghaeilge acu, bhí cuid de na daoine amhrasach nach mbeadh rud ar bith ar fáil ar an tsuíomh dóibh, ar eagla go mbeadh gach rud dírithe ar Ghaeilgeoirí líofa, ach dúirt siad gur mhothaigh siad difriúil faoi seo nuair a d'fhoghlaim siad faoin dátheangachas srl. Mar sin, tá sé tábhachtach go mbeidh sé soiléir do ghach duine cad é atá ar fáil ar an tsuíomh seo má tá iarracht ar bun chun daoine nua a mhealladh sa treo seo.

I dtaca le hainm an tsuímh, cuireadh ceist ar leith ar ghach grúpa maidir leis seo. Cuireadh an cheist seo i gcomhthéacs an chomhrá a tháinig roimhe, agus don chuid is mó thaitin an t-ainm leis na rannpháirtithe. Shíl na rannpháirtithe gur ainm deas gairid é, agus go mbeidh sé inaitheanta roimh i bhfad mar áis do Ghaeilgeoirí nó do dhaoine atá ag foghlaim na Gaeilge.

11. PEIG (Community Information Multimedia Irish)

PEIG (Community Information Multimedia Irish) is a new online platform which provides information about the Irish language, news about the Irish language and the Gaeltacht. Also, people can register local events, such as classes, conversation circles etc., and this information is visible to everyone on the sight. It is available online and as a smartphone App.

To ensure that each of the participants was able to take part in this conversation properly, the PEIG site was shown to each of the groups on a computer and as the phone App. The aims of the site were explained to them and the various available features were described. Most of the participants who had fluent Irish were already aware of PEIG, some of the learners were aware of PEIG and none of those without Irish were aware of the site. This was the same north and south.

All the groups agreed that this site is a good idea, and that there is a need for something of this nature. The groups with fluent Irish speakers and with learners mentioned that there is a need for a site like this now that Gaelport is no longer available, especially in relation to vacancies and public notices in the Irish language community. It was also said that it would be useful if all news stories in relation to the Irish language were in one place, as is done on PEIG. The fact that this service is also available as an App was praised by some, as it is recognised that people are making more use of services such as this on their phones instead of on computers.

As the site is bilingual, both groups of learners thought that this site would be a useful resource to them. They thought that it was a practical, useful site. They recommended that learning resources would also be made available for learners. It was also said that it would be useful if there was a part of the site dedicated to 3rd level students, and that they would be able to access resources, to search for other research etc.

All of the groups liked the map of activities, and some people mentioned that while they are inclined to attend events through Irish, they aren't aware of what is available locally, and therefore PEIG would be very useful to them. Some people also mentioned that it would be good if these events were also available in a listed form as this could be clearer for certain people.

Among those without any Irish, some people were doubtful that there would be anything on the site for them, in case everything was focussed on fluent speakers, but they said that they felt different about this when they learnt about the bilingualism etc. Therefore, it's important that it is made clear to everyone what is available on this site if an effort is to be made to attract people to it.

In relation to the name of the site, every group was asked a specific question about this. This was done in the context of the conversation that came before, and for the most part the participants liked the name. The participants thought that the name was nice and short, and that it would soon be recognisable for Irish speakers or for people who are learning the language.

Rinneadh nasc idir ainm an tsuímh agus an leabhar 'Peig' a bhí ar shiollabas na hArdteiste roinnt blianta ó shin. Dúirt na foghlaimoirí ó dheas gur thaitin an leanúnachas sin leo. Dúirt duine amháin i ngrúpa amháin, nár thaitin an t-ainm leo mar gheall nár thaitin an leabhar sin leis agus é ar scoil, ach don fhorhmór níor chuir an nasc seo isteach ar dhaoine i ngrúpa ar bith. Dúirt daoine sa ghrúpa nach bhfuil Gaeilge ar bith acu ó dheas go raibh a fhios acu go raibh leabhar darbh ainm 'Peig' ann, ach nach gcuirfeadh an nasc sin leis an leabhar isteach orthu ar chor ar bith, agus nach ndéanadh sé aon difear dá rogha dul ar an suíomh.

A link was made between the name of the site and the book 'Peig' that was on the Leaving Certificate syllabus a number of years ago. The learners in the south stated that they enjoyed this continuity. It was stated by one person that they didn't like this name because they hadn't enjoyed the book while at school, but for the most part this link didn't create difficulties for those in the other groups. Those in the group in the south without any Irish stated that while they were aware that there was a book also called 'Peig', that this link wouldn't affect them in any way, and that it wouldn't affect their decision to access the site.

Ba bhreá liom Gaeilge a labhairt go háitiúil

Tá fonn orm mo chuid Gaeilge a fheabhsú

Seo í an deis...

Gach eolas ar imeachtaí, ranganna nuacht & go leor eile - PEIG.ie

peig.ie
POBAL • EOLAS • ILMHEÁIN • GAEILGE

Aip peig.ie saor in aisce
App Store
Google play

Eagraithe ag: **Conradh na Gaeilge**

Maoinithe ag: **Foras na Gaeilge**

12. An Ghaeilge agus Na Meáin

I measc na seirbhísí ar fad atá ar fáil do Ghaeilgeoirí, tá áit ar leith ann do na meáin Ghaeilge mar gheall ar an ról lárnach a imríonn an tseirbhís seo i saol na Gaeilge agus Gaeltachta. Cé nár cuireadh aon cheist faoi na meáin sa suirbhé, cuireadh an t-ábhar seo san áireamh sna fócasghrúpaí mar chuid den phlé ar sheirbhísí ginearálta. Don cheist seo, clúdaíodh plé ar pháipéir nuachtáin, cláracha teilifíse agus raidió agus na meáin shóisialta. Rinneadh an cheist seo a phlé leis na grúpaí uilig mar dhá chuid éagsúla:

- a) Cad é bhur mbarúil ar na meáin Ghaeilge atá ar fáil faoi láthair?
- b) Cad é bhur mbarúil ar an chlúdach a dhéantar ar chúrsaí Gaeilge agus Gaeltachta sna meáin Bhéarla?

Rinneadh na pointí seo a leanas:

- Dúirt na grúpaí ó thuaidh le Gaeilge go bhfuil soiléireacht agus cinnteacht de dhíth orthu siúd atá ag obair sna meáin Ghaeilge. Faoi láthair, tá an earnáil seo ag brath ar an Chiste Craoltóireachta Gaeilge (obair a moladh sa phlé) ach go bhfuil leanúnachas agus cinnteacht de dhíth le pleanáil a dhéanamh agus struchtúr agus naisc a thógáil don todhcháil.
- Ba chóir go gclúdaítear cúrsaí a bhaineann leis an Ghaeilge agus leis an Ghaeltacht níos minice sna meáin Bhéarla. Mothaítear go ndéantar neamhaird ar an Ghaeilge, go háirithe sa tuaisceart, agus mar gheall air sin bíonn sé deacair an tábhacht a bhaineann le scéalta áirithe a bhrú ar an phobal.
- I measc na ngrúpaí le rannpháirtithe gan Ghaeilge, dúradh nár shíl siad go raibh cúrsaí Gaeilge le feiceáil sna meáin ar chor ar bith, agus más rud go raibh aon scéal ann faoin Ghaeilge nó faoin Ghaeltacht, gur mhothaigh siad láithreach nár bhain an scéal leo.
- Ó thuaidh, bhí barúil ag na grúpaí ar fad go ndéanann na meáin iarracht i gcónaí scéalta faoin Ghaeilge a nascadh le cúrsaí polaitíochta, fiú nuair nach bhfuil aon bhaint idir eatarthu. Ciallaíonn sé seo nach bhfaigheann daoine léargas cothrom ar an scéal nó ar stad reatha na teanga.
- Tá bearna ollmhór ann anois mar gheall ar an easpa nuachtán clóite Gaeilge. Bhí Tuairisc.ie agus Nós.ie le moladh go forleathan sna fócas grúpaí le Gaeilgeoirí agus le foghlaimoírí, ach fosta dúradh nach bhfuil nuachtán ar líne amháin fóirsteanach do ghach duine.

12. The Irish Language and the Media

Among all the services that are available to Irish speakers, there is a certain place for the Irish language media because of the central role that this plays in the Irish language and Gaeltacht community. Although no question in relation to the media was asked in the survey, this subject was included in the focus groups as part of the discussion on services more generally. For this question, newspapers, television and radio programmes and social media were included. This question was dealt with by the groups in two separate parts:

- a) What is your opinion of the Irish language media currently available?
- b) What is your opinion of the coverage of Irish language and Gaeltacht matters in the English language media?

The following points were made:

- The groups in the north said that more clarity and certainty is needed by those who are working in the Irish language media. At present, the sector is dependent upon the Irish Language Broadcast Fund (work which was praised in the discussions) but that consistency and certainty is needed to carry out planning and to build links and structures for the future.
- More coverage should be done on Irish language and Gaeltacht matters in the English language media. It was felt that the Irish language is ignored, especially in the north, and because of this it is difficult to impress upon the public the importance of some stories.
- Among the participants without Irish it was said that they didn't feel that Irish language matters were covered in the media at all, and that if there was any story about the Irish language or about the Gaeltacht, that they felt that the story wasn't relevant to them.
- In the north, there was an opinion among all of the groups that there is a constant effort made to connect stories about the Irish language to political matters, even when there is no link between the two. This means that people don't get a fair insight into the story or into the current status of the language.
- There is a gap left now that there is no printed Irish language newspapers. Both Tuairisc.ie and Nós.ie were widely praised in the groups with fluent Irish speakers and with learners, but it was also said that online platforms are not suitable for everyone.

Aguisín A.

Ceisteanna Millward Brown (Feabhra 2015)

Seachtain na Gaeilge

- Ar chuala tú i riamh faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge?
- Ar ghlac tú páirt i riamh in imeachtaí de chuid Seachtain na Gaeilge?

An aontaíonn tú leis na habairtí seo a leanas:

- “Ba mhaith liom an deis a bheith agam an Ghaeilge a labhairt níos minice.”
- “Ba mhaith liom an deis a bheith agam tuilleadh Gaeilge a fhoghlaim.”
- “Ba chóir go mbeadh an ceart ar Ghaeloideachas ar fáil do ghach páiste, más sin an rogha atá acu.”
- “Ba chóir don Stát/Rialtas tacaíocht a chur ar fáil do phobal le straitéisí Gaeilge a fhorbairt ina gceantar féin.”
- “Ba chóir don Stát tuilleadh tacaíochta a chur ar fáil don Ghaeilge.”
- “Ba chóir go mbeadh seirbhísí ar fáil ón Stát/Rialtas do dhaoine ar mhaith leo iad a úsáid.”
- “Is acmhainn i léith í an Ghaeilge agus is féidir léi cur go dearfach le forbairt eacnamaíochta na an oileáin.”
- “Is GUD í úsáid na Gaeilge ag gnóthaí.”
- “Ba chóir d’údaráis agus do chomhairlí áitiúla comharthaíocht dhátheangach a chur in airde, nuair a bhíonn éileamh áitiúil ann.”
- “Tá mé muiníneach gur féidir liom Gaeilge a labhairt.”
- “Tá mé muiníneach gur féidir liom Gaeilge a thuigbheáil.”

Appendix A.

Millward Brown Questions (February 2015)

Seachtain na Gaeilge

- Have you ever heard of Seachtain na Gaeilge?
- Have you ever taken part in an event as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge?

Do you agree with the following statements:

- “I would like to have the opportunity to speak Irish more often”
- “I would like to have the opportunity to learn Irish or learn more Irish”
- “Every child should be entitled to have their education through the medium of Irish, if that is their preferred choice”
- “The State Government should provide support for communities to develop Irish language strategies in their own areas”
- “The State Government should provide more support for the Irish language”
- “Services provided by the State Government should be made available through Irish for those who wish to use them”
- “The Irish language is a unique resource which can make a positive contribution to the economic development of this island the Island of Ireland”
- “The use of Irish by businesses provides a unique selling point”
- “Bilingual signs should be erected by local authorities and councils, where there is a local demand”
- “I am confident in my ability to speak Irish”
- “I am confident in my ability to understand Irish”

Aguisín B.

Fócasghrúpaí

- PEIG**
 - Cad é do bharúil ar an ardán ilmheán nua seo?
 - Cad é do bharúil ar an ainm PEIG?
- Ról na Gaeilge sa Sochaí (Foghlaimoirí agus grúpaí gan Ghaeilge amháin)**

Cén ról atá ag an Ghaeilge i gcúrsaí cultúrtha / sa tsochaí?
- Na Meáin**
 - Cad é do bharúil ar chlúdach ar chúrsaí Gaeilge sna meáin Bhéarla?
 - Cad é do bharúil ar na meáin Ghaeilge?
- Seirbhísí agus tacaíocht don Ghaeilge**
 - Cad é do bharúil ar na seirbhísí atá ar fáil trí Ghaeilge faoi láthair?
 - Cad iad na seirbhísí is mó gur chóir don Stát a chur ar fáil?
- Oideachas**
 - Cad é do bharúil faoin earnáil Gaelscolaíochta faoi láthair?
- Seachtain na Gaeilge**
 - Ar chuala tú i riamh faoi Sheachtain na Gaeilge?
 - Ar ghlac tú páirt riamh in imeacht de chuid Sheachtain na Gaeilge?
 - Cén íomha atá agat nuair a shíleann tú ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge?
 - Cad iad na moltaí atá agat d'imeachtaí Sheachtain na Gaeilge amach anseo?
 - An síleann sibh go gcuireann Seachtain na Gaeilge fonn ar dhaoine níos mó Gaeilge a fhoghlaim / a úsáid?
- Foghlaim agus Úsáid na Gaeilge**
 - Cad é an bealach is fearr le daoine a spreagadh le tuilleadh Gaeilge a fhoghlaim?
 - Cad é an bealach is fearr le daoine a spreagadh le tuilleadh Gaeilge a úsáid?
- An Ghaeilge agus Cúrsaí Gnó**
 - Cén ról ar féidir leis an Ghaeilge a imirt i dtaca le cúrsaí gnó?
 - Cad iad na rudaí a mheilfeá le hearraí Gaeilge a cheannach?

Appendix B.

Focus Groups

- PEIG**
 - What is your opinion of this new multimedia platform?
 - What is your opinion of the name PEIG?
- The Role of the Irish Language in Society (learners and groups without Irish only)**

What role does the language have in cultural or societal matters?
- The Media**
 - What is your opinion of the coverage of Irish language matters in the English language media?
 - What is your opinion of the Irish language media?
- Services and support for the Irish language**
 - What is your opinion of the services that are currently available through Irish?
 - What are the services that the state most needs to provide?
- Education**
 - What is your opinion of the Irish-medium education sector at present?
- Seachtain na Gaeilge**
 - Have you ever heard of Seachtain na Gaeilge?
 - Have you ever taken part in an event as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge?
 - What image comes to mind when you think of Seachtain na Gaeilge?
 - What would you recommend for Seachtain na Gaeilge events in the future?
- Learning and Use of the Irish Language**
 - What is the best way to encourage people to learn Irish?
 - What is the best way to encourage people to use Irish?
- The Irish language and Business**
 - What role can the Irish language play in relation to business?
 - What would attract you to buy an Irish language good?



Breis eolais: www.cnag.ie / taighde@cnag.ie / +353 (0)1 4757401 / +44 (0)28 90315647