



Northern Ireland (NI) Tracker Poll Results: August 2021 **POLL QUESTIONS RESULTS – MAIN REPORT**

27th August 2021 – Main Report

LucidTalk NI ‘Summer Tracker’ Poll – August 2021

This report covers results and commentary for the poll-survey project

– LucidTalk (LT) NI Opinion Panel ‘Tracker Poll’ August 2021 (2,435 responses, - 2,403 final weighted sample)

Topics include: (a) NI Political Party support, (b) NI Political Leader ratings, (c) NI Border poll issues, (d) Coronavirus issues

Partners for this project:

The BELFAST TELEGRAPH, U105 radio, and the OBSERVER



Apart from the Belfast Telegraph, this report, and any parts of this report, is/are embargoed until 9am 28th August 2021, except by prior approval from the Belfast Telegraph and LucidTalk.

Questions 3 and 4 are embargoed until 9am Sunday 29th August 2021

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Subject LT Opinion Panel Polling Projects

Issue 27th August 2021: LT NI Opinion Panel Poll-Project – LT Summer 2021 NI ‘Tracker’ Poll – August 2021: Final Results Report
Date (Base Version 1): 27th August 2021 (Version 1)

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Key abbreviations and acronyms used in this report:

Where referenced in this document the following abbreviations and acronyms are used:

NI - Northern Ireland, LT – LucidTalk, UK – United Kingdom, BPC – British Polling Council, DUP – Democratic Unionist Party, UUP – Ulster Unionist Party, SDLP – Social Democratic and Labour Party, SF - Sinn Féin, TUV – Traditional Unionist Voice, PBP – People Before Profit

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LUCIDTALK MONTHLY TRACKER POLLS - Introduction and Background

LucidTalk (LT) run scheduled regular 'Tracker' polls of their established Northern Ireland online Opinion Panel - usually on a quarterly basis. The online LucidTalk Opinion Panel (now 13,688 members) consists of Northern Ireland (NI) residents (age 18+) and is balanced by gender, age-group, area of residence, and community background, in order to be demographically representative of Northern Ireland. This is the report from LT's August 2021 NI-Wide 'Tracker' poll – poll field research period: 20th to 23rd August 2021.

The objective of these scheduled and regular 'Tracker' polls is to research opinion on key issues at key points in time + track changes in trends and opinions about key topics and issues over specific periods of time.

For this 'Tracker' poll-project a targeted sector (designed by computer) of the LT 13,688 member online NI Opinion Panel was invited to participate, and 2,676 responses were received, - data auditing ensured:

(a) 'one person-one vote' responses, and

(b) the collation of a robust, accurate, and balanced representative NI sample,

- **The main 2,676 response data-set was 'weighted down' and a 2,403 NI representative full response data-set was used for Question 1 analysis, and a 2,556 response data-set for Questions 2-6.**

Methodology – and Press Publication notes:

Polling was carried out by Belfast based polling and market research company LucidTalk. The project was carried out online from 1pm 20th August to 10pm 23rd August 2021. The project targeted the established Northern Ireland (NI) LucidTalk online Opinion Panel (13,688 members) which is balanced by gender, age-group, area of residence, and community background, in order to be demographically representative of Northern Ireland. 2,676 full responses were received, and a data auditing process was carried out to ensure all completed poll-surveys were genuine 'one-person, one-vote' responses, and also to collate a robust and accurate balanced NI representative sample. This 2,676 response data-set was then 'weighted down' and a 2,403 NI representative full response data-set was used for Question 1 analysis, and a 2,556 response data-set for Questions 2-6, in terms of the final results.

Data was weighted to the profile of all NI adults aged 18+. Data was weighted by age, sex, socio-economic group, previous voting patterns (i.e. at the last 5 NI elections, and including the NI EU Referendum), constituency, constitutional position, party support, and religious affiliation.

All data results produced are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting. For further details regarding the data analysis and data weighting methodologies used for this project – please see Appendix 1.

LucidTalk – Professional Credentials

LucidTalk is a member of the British Polling Council (BPC), the UK Market Research Society (UK MRS), and ESOMAR (European Society of Market Research organisations). The BPC are the primary UK professional body ensuring professional Polling and Market Research standards. All polling, research, sampling, methodologies used, market research projects and results and reports production are, and have been, carried out to the professional standards laid down by the BPC and also (as published) of AIMRO (Association of Irish Market Research Organisations).

Note to Publishers: According to agreed British Polling Council and UK IPSO procedure - Parts in Red **MUST** be published - if not in full, then in a format that conveys the same meaning. NB this can be in 'small-type' e.g. in a box at the bottom of the coverage etc. Parts in black type are desirable to be included, but not essential.

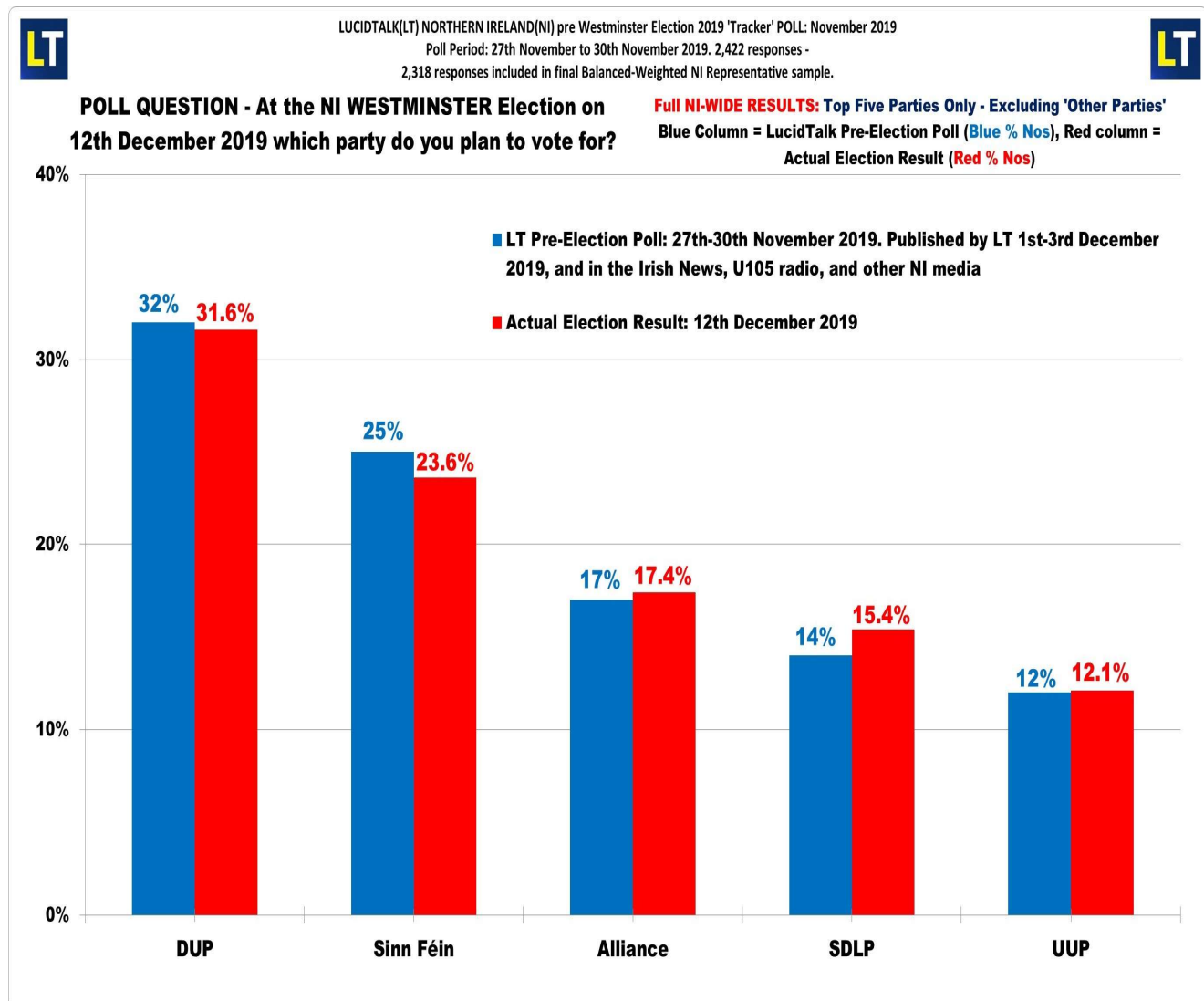
See Appendix 1 of this report for further details regarding LucidTalk's Polling and Data Weighting methodologies.

LucidTalk is a member of The British Polling Council and abides by its rules: <http://www.britishpollingcouncil.org>.

LUCIDTALK – Performance and ‘Track Record’

LucidTalk (LT) methodologies have shown a solid track record e.g. LT forecast the Northern Ireland Westminster Election 2019 results to within 1%, the Northern Ireland Assembly Election 2017 results to within 1%, and the Northern Ireland EU Referendum 2016 result to within 1%. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that the results included in this report are therefore representative of current NI opinion to within the specified mathematical error, as detailed above.

LucidTalk’s polling forecast performance at the 2019 UK (Northern Ireland) General Election:



NB All commentary, is provided ‘for guidance’ and for information purposes only. This is because commentary and analyses are not meant to be absolute determinations from the poll results, as poll and market research results can be subject to differing interpretations, commentary, and conclusions.

Constitutional Position:

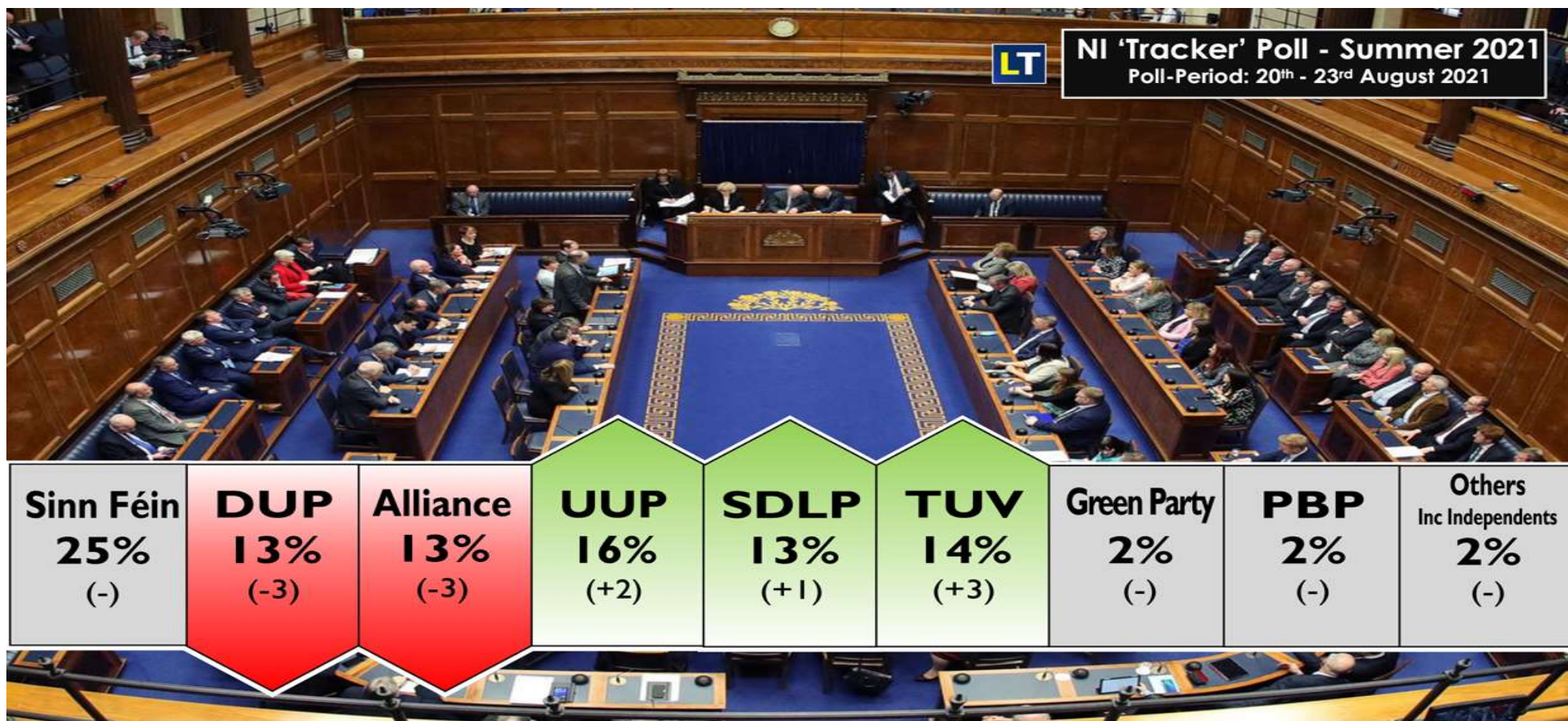
Neutral = typically Alliance, Green, Independent’s voter group, and 'Others',

Unionists = Those who vote for Unionist parties + people from a Unionist heritage background,

Nationalist and/or Republican = Those who vote for SDLP/Sinn Féin + people from an Irish Nationalist/Republican heritage background.

POLL QUESTION 1: NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION – MAIN RESULTS GRAPHIC - If a NI Assembly Election were to be held tomorrow which political party would you vote for as FIRST PREFERENCE? **TOTAL NI RESULTS**

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



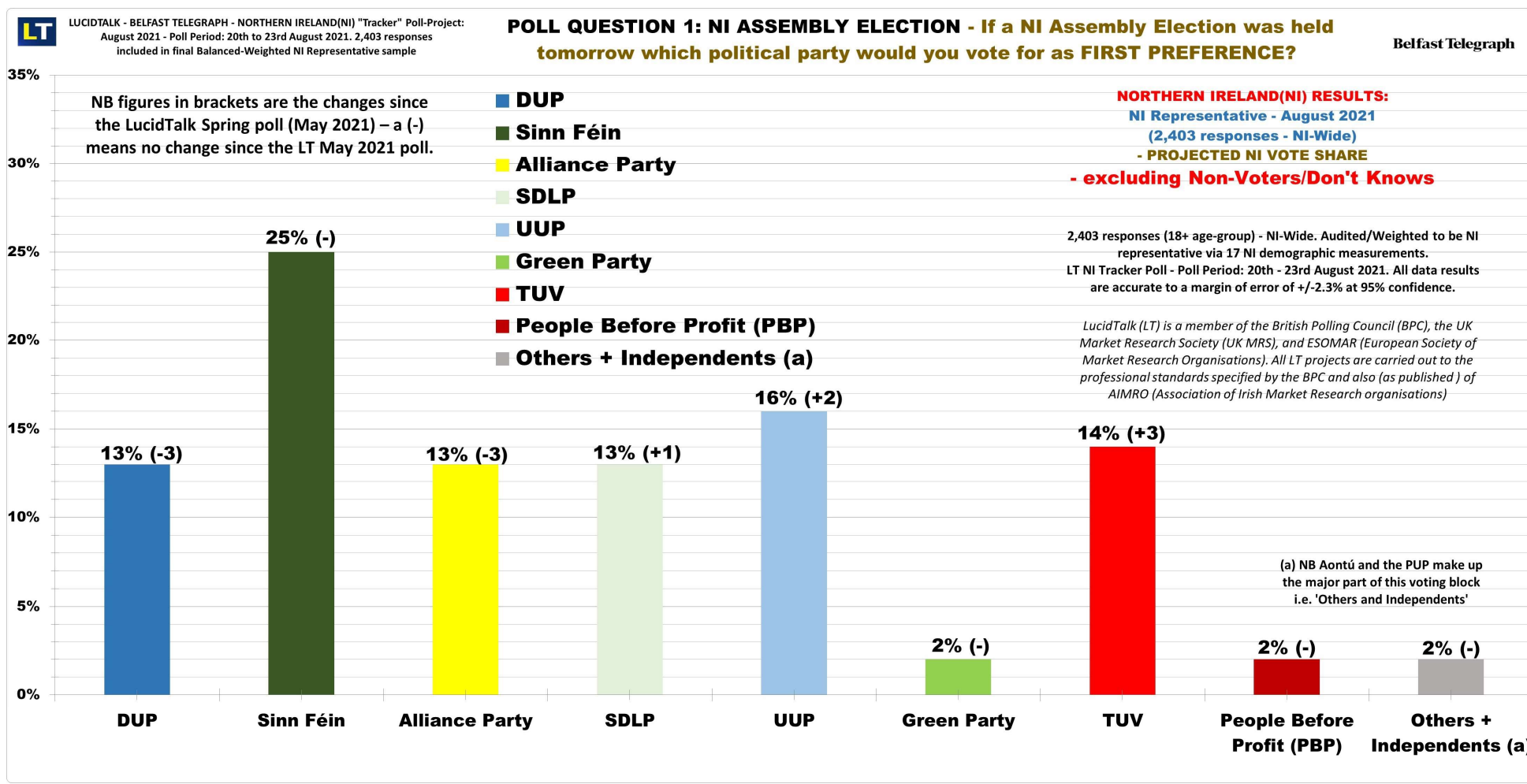
Belfast Telegraph

LucidTalk (LT) NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll - Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses (18 years+ age group) NI-WIDE. Results are NI Assembly Election Political-Party vote share projections - Audited/Weighted to be NI representative. All data results are NI representative to a margin of error of +/- 2.3%, at 95% confidence. Differences are vs LT May 2021 Poll.



POLL QUESTION 1: NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION – Who would you vote for? – MAIN RESULTS - If a NI Assembly Election were to be held tomorrow which political party would you vote for as FIRST PREFERENCE? TOTAL NI RESULTS

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



POLL QUESTION 1: NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION – Who would you vote for? – ALL RESULTS - If a NI Assembly Election were to be held tomorrow which political party would you vote for as FIRST PREFERENCE? ALL TOTAL NI RESULTS since 2017

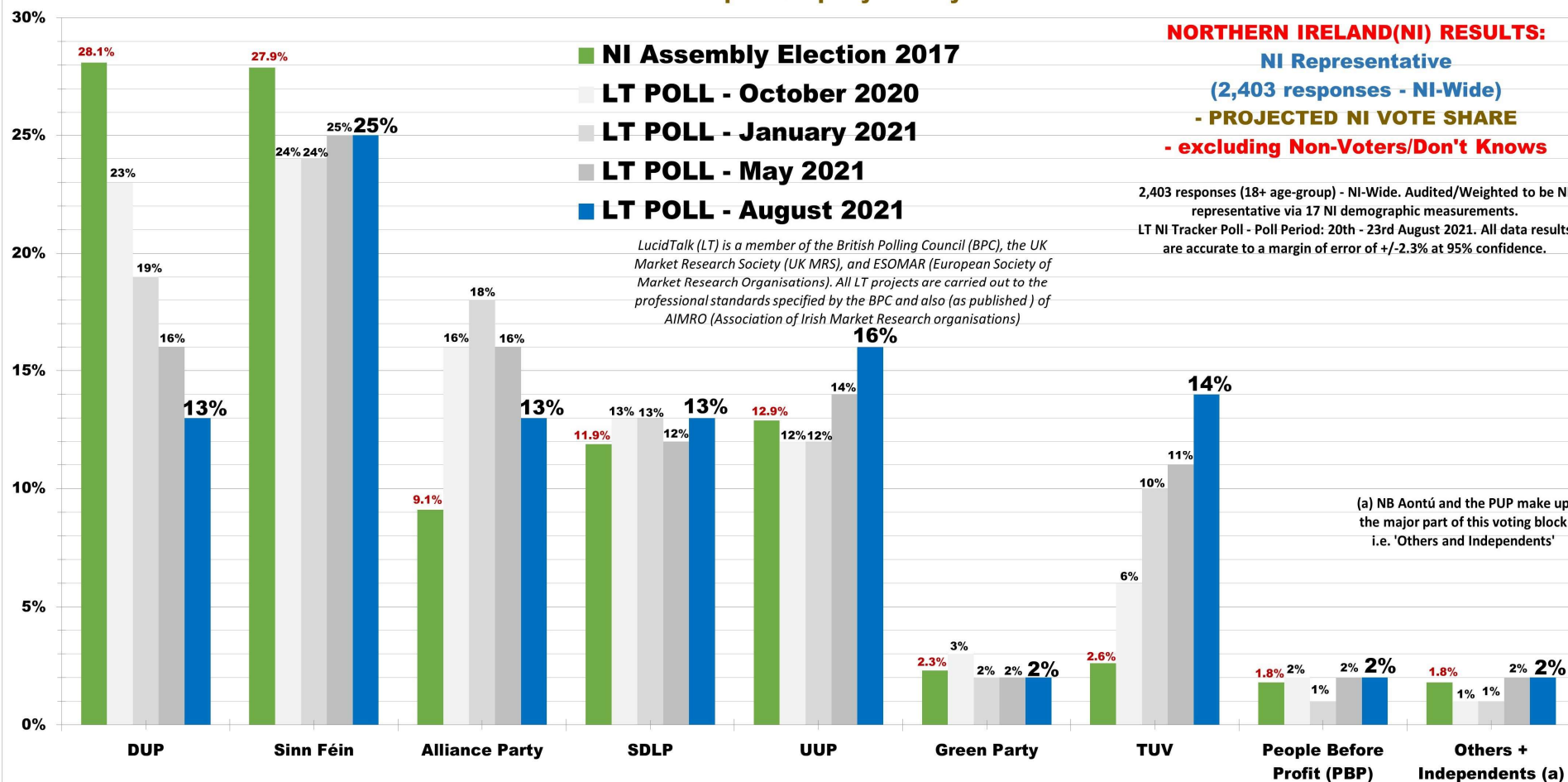
LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



LUCIDTALK - BELFAST TELEGRAPH - NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project:
August 2021 - Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses
included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

POLL QUESTION 1: NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION - If a NI Assembly Election were to be held tomorrow which political party would you vote for as FIRST PREFERENCE?

Belfast Telegraph



POLL QUESTION 1: NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION – Who would you vote for? – DATA TABLES - If a NI Assembly Election were to be held tomorrow which political party would you vote for as FIRST PREFERENCE? NI RESULTS – Table Analyses

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021

POLL QUESTION 1 - NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION. If a NI Assembly Election were to be held tomorrow which political party would you vote for as FIRST PREFERENCE? - Excluding Don't Know/Undecideds

BASE : All respondents - 2,403 NI representative sample (weighted): LT NI-Wide Tracker Poll - August 2021

	GENDER			AGE-GROUP				SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS			NI Region - Residence Area (see description)				
	TOTAL	Female	Male	18-24	25-44	45-64	65+	ABC1	C2DE	Other	Belfast	East	North	South	West
SINN FEIN	25%	25%	25%	49%	29%	23%	10%	24%	32%	12%	28%	6%	23%	30%	35%
DUP	13%	10%	16%	5%	16%	13%	11%	13%	15%	9%	12%	17%	13%	11%	13%
ALLIANCE	13%	15%	10%	9%	10%	11%	20%	14%	8%	20%	17%	21%	9%	8%	7%
UUP	16%	14%	18%	14%	14%	17%	17%	17%	12%	21%	9%	26%	13%	20%	9%
SDLP	13%	16%	10%	9%	10%	11%	22%	16%	11%	12%	13%	4%	17%	15%	16%
TUV	14%	13%	15%	2%	14%	17%	14%	10%	15%	18%	7%	22%	15%	12%	13%
GREEN PARTY	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	1%	7%	2%	1%	1%	1%
PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT(PBP)	2%	3%	2%	9%	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%	4%	3%	0%	6%	1%	3%
(a) OTHERS + Independents etc.	2%	1%	3%	1%	3%	5%	1%	3%	2%	3%	4%	2%	3%	2%	3%

(a) NB Aontú and the PUP make up the major part of this voting block i.e. 'Others and Independents'.

e.g. 15% of Northern Ireland (NI) females vote Alliance, 10% vote DUP, 25% vote Sinn Fein. 49% of NI 18-24 year-olds vote Sinn Fein, 5% vote DUP. 28% of people in Belfast vote Sinn Fein, 17% vote Alliance, 35% of the people in West NI vote Sinn Fein, Both the DUP and Sinn Fein have a higher proportional vote from the 'Working class' (C2DE group) – the Alliance, UUP, and SDLP have a proportionally more 'middle class' vote. 20% of the NI over 65years age-group vote Alliance, and 22% of this 65+ age-group vote SDLP.

POLL QUESTION 1 - NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION. If a NI Assembly Election were to be held tomorrow which political party would you vote for as FIRST PREFERENCE? - Excluding Don't Know/Undecideds

BASE : All respondents - 2,403 NI representative sample (weighted); LT NI-Wide Tracker Poll - August 2021

	TOTAL	NI Assembly Election Vote 2017: CNR = Catholic/Nationalist/Republican, PUL = Protestant/Unionist/Loyalist													
		Non voters at													
		NI 2017 NIA													
		Alliance	DUP	Green	Conservatives	election	Others	PBP	PUP	SDLP	Sinn Fein	TUV	UKIP	Unknown - can't identify	UUP
SINN FEIN	25%	4%	3%	5%	0%	14%	0%	11%	2%	5%	79%	0%	0%	13%	0%
DUP	13%	0%	42%	0%	2%	4%	2%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	66%	36%	7%
ALLIANCE	13%	76%	2%	24%	0%	24%	24%	7%	4%	12%	6%	0%	0%	4%	8%
UUP	16%	10%	12%	12%	37%	30%	9%	0%	42%	2%	0%	3%	0%	9%	75%
SDLP	13%	6%	3%	12%	0%	8%	13%	1%	0%	75%	8%	0%	0%	13%	0%
TUV	14%	0%	36%	0%	0%	10%	15%	1%	15%	0%	0%	95%	34%	22%	8%
GREEN PARTY	2%	3%	0%	45%	0%	2%	0%	2%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%
PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT(PBP)	2%	1%	0%	1%	4%	6%	1%	75%	0%	2%	3%	0%	0%	2%	0%
(a) OTHERS + Independents etc.	2%	0%	2%	1%	57%	2%	36%	3%	37%	2%	2%	2%	0%	0%	1%

(a) NB Aontú and the PUP make up the major part of this voting block i.e. 'Others and Independents'.

e.g. 36% of those who voted DUP at the 2017 NI Assembly (NIA) election now say they would vote TUV, and 12% would vote UUP. 12% who voted SDLP at the 2017 NIA election now say they would vote Alliance etc. 24% of those who voted for the Green party at the NI Assembly election, now say they would vote Alliance etc.

POLL QUESTION 1 - NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION. If a NI Assembly Election were to be held tomorrow which political party would you vote for as FIRST PREFERENCE? - Excluding Don't Know/Undecideds

BASE : All respondents - 2,403 NI representative sample (weighted); LT NI-Wide Tracker Poll - August 2021

	TOTAL	CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION					COMMUNITY - RELIGION				EU REFERENDUM 2016 - PAST VOTE			
		Neutral	Slightly Nationalist	Slightly Unionist	Strongly Nationalist	Strongly Unionist	Catholic	No Religion	Other	Protestant	Leave	Did not vote	Prefer not to say	Remain
SINN FEIN	25%	6%	28%	1%	80%	3%	52%	22%	10%	0%	6%	39%	0%	38%
DUP	13%	1%	2%	17%	0%	30%	1%	3%	10%	29%	26%	4%	16%	4%
ALLIANCE	13%	54%	16%	23%	2%	1%	11%	28%	17%	6%	5%	15%	39%	18%
UUP	16%	7%	0%	37%	0%	23%	1%	14%	14%	31%	22%	12%	15%	11%
SDLP	13%	18%	41%	2%	12%	3%	26%	10%	9%	3%	4%	6%	7%	21%
TUV	14%	1%	0%	13%	0%	37%	1%	11%	33%	27%	33%	4%	2%	0%
GREEN PARTY	2%	5%	5%	2%	1%	1%	2%	4%	0%	1%	1%	2%	0%	3%
PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT(PBP)	2%	5%	4%	2%	4%	0%	2%	7%	3%	0%	1%	13%	21%	3%
(a) OTHERS + Independents etc.	2%	3%	4%	3%	1%	2%	4%	1%	4%	3%	2%	5%	0%	2%

(a) NB Aontú and the PUP make up the major part of this voting block i.e. 'Others and Independents'.

e.g. 26% of those who voted LEAVE at the 2016 UK EU Referendum would vote DUP if there was a NI Assembly election. 52% of Catholics would vote Sinn Fein, and 26% of Catholics would vote SDLP. 29% of protestants would vote DUP, 31% would vote UUP etc.

KEY NOTES – relating to the Data-Tables above:

Notes: NI Region/Area is analysed as follows: by the NI constituencies which we record:

Belfast/Belfast area – the 4 Belfast constituencies (North, South, East, and West)

East NI – North Down/Lagan Valley/South Antrim/East Antrim

South NI – South Down/Strangford/Newry and Armagh/Upper Bann

West NI – Fermanagh and South Tyrone/Mid-Ulster/West Tyrone,

North NI – Foyle/East Londonderry/North Antrim

Constitutional Position – Neutral = typically Alliance, Green, Independents voter group, and 'Others', Unionists = Those who vote for Unionist parties + people from a Unionist heritage background, Nationalist and/or Republican = Those who vote for SDLP/Sinn Fein + people from a Nationalist/Republican heritage background.

Constitutional Position – Weightings: the weightings shown on the adjacent table are calculated based on data such as the 2016 and 2017 Northern Ireland (NI) elections, NI census estimates, and electorate election figures for gender, age, religion, constituency etc. This data analysis was then combined with previous polling information and results from LucidTalk NI polls in the last 3 years for party and constitutional position. Strongly Unionist or Nationalist/Republican = Committed over a long time period, and a consistent Unionist or Nationalist/Republican voter respectively. Broadly-Mildly Unionist or Nationalist/Republican = 'Mostly' support that specific position, but intermittently, and are intermittent voters for that respective political position. Neutral = typically Alliance, Green, Independents voter group, and 'Others'.

NOTES – Commentary regarding Poll Question 1:

- The DUP has continued to drop from our May 2021 poll – down another three points in this poll. This poll is the first poll to be run since Jeffrey Donaldson took over as leader, so there has been little time for his leadership to have any impact on the poll scores.
- However, Jeffrey Donaldson has his work cut-out, as the downward trend of the DUP has continued in this poll. Jeffrey Donaldson and the DUP would need to see this poll score start to move upwards again by the time of our ‘Autumn 2021’ poll in November.
- These poll scores probably continue to reflect the undoubted annoyance and worry in the DUP voter base, and in the wider unionist voter base, about the NI protocol, NI sea border, Brexit in general etc.?
- Plus, the DUP would need to get their poll score up again, to at least the mid 20’s again, by the start of next year i.e. – to give them a good base (i.e. in Jan 2022) with at that time, 4-5 months before the next Assembly election. Once again, the DUP can’t afford this poll score to settle, and to fester, at this mid to late-teens level.
- Its noticeable that the UUP are up two points again, as they also were up 2 points in our May 2021 poll, perhaps showing that Doug Beattie is a more popular leader than Steve Aiken. Doug Beattie also scored very positively in the leaders rating question.
- The TUV will be well pleased that their upward trend is continuing with another jump in this poll of +3% compared to our May21 poll.
- Alliance have dropped 3 points since our May poll, and maybe a small chunk of their vote has gone back to the UUP based on the new UUP leader. NB Doug Beattie has well known ‘liberal’ views on many issues, which may be attractive to some Alliance voters.
- Sinn Fein will be satisfied enough that they are consolidating their position on 25% vote-share, and are comfortably NI’s largest party based on this poll, and therefore could well be on their way to the First Ministers post in next year’s NI Assembly election (May 2022).
- The SDLP are up 1 point, so will be pleased that they’ve gone back to where they were in our January 2021 poll, as they dropped a point in our May 2021 poll. But this shouldn’t be taken as too serious as its usual to get small movements in polls over a 3-4 month period.
- If you look at the data-tables – you will see that 58% of the DUP voters at the last NI Assembly election, now say they would vote for a different party, with 36% of 2017 DUP voters now saying they would vote TUV.

- The DUP have held onto only 42% of their vote in 2017 (NI Assembly election) i.e. they've lost 58% of their 2017 vote i.e. they've gone elsewhere – well they've lost them at the moment, they of course, could win some/all of them back before the next NI Assembly election. This is a 13% change in this figure when compared to our May21 poll i.e. our May poll showed the DUP had lost 'only' 45%.

Some additional points particularly about the demographic analyses – see the project data-tables:

- As before in our May 2021 poll, SF are strongest in the 'young' and 'mid-young' age-group i.e. the 18-44 age-group. They're particularly strong in the 18-24 age-group with 49% of 18-24 year-olds in NI saying they would vote Sinn Fein in a NI Assembly election tomorrow. Although Alliance and the Green party are attracting an increasing No. of these younger voters.
- Once again, there is a skew with the SDLP and the UUP towards the older age-groups. This is a problem for these parties.
- Note the residence area patterns – SF are strong in the West, and Alliance are skewed towards the east of NI etc...
- Alliance vote is more from Females. 15% of NI females say they will vote Alliance at the next NI Assembly election, compared to only 10% of females who say they will vote DUP.
- DUP vote is skewed towards the working class. 15% of the total NI C2DE (i.e. 'working class') grouping say they will vote DUP at the next NI Assembly election, compared to 12% who say they will vote UUP. However, 17% of the total NI ABC1 (i.e. middle-class) say they will vote UUP compared to only 13% who say they will vote DUP.
- Alliance and SDLP get most of their vote from the middle-classes, and to a lesser extent the UUP also.
- Interestingly 24% of NI's ABC1 group (i.e. 'middle class') say they will vote SF at the next NI Assembly election, and next highest in this group is 17% of the ABC1 'middle class' group who say they will vote UUP.
- 15% of Northern Ireland (NI) females vote Alliance, 10% vote DUP, 25% vote Sinn Fein. 49% of NI 18-24 year-olds vote Sinn Fein, 5% vote DUP. 28% of people in Belfast vote Sinn Fein, 17% vote Alliance, 35% of the people in West NI vote Sinn Fein, Both the DUP and Sinn Fein have a higher proportional vote from the 'Working class' (C2DE group) – the Alliance, UUP, and SDLP have a proportionally more 'middle class' vote. 20% of the NI over 65years age-group vote Alliance, and 22% of this 65+ age-group vote SDLP.

POLL QUESTION 2: NI POLITICAL LEADERS - How do you rate the following political party leaders in terms of their overall performance in the last few months? **TOTAL NI RESULTS: - NI-Wide Weighted/Balanced to be NI Representative**

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



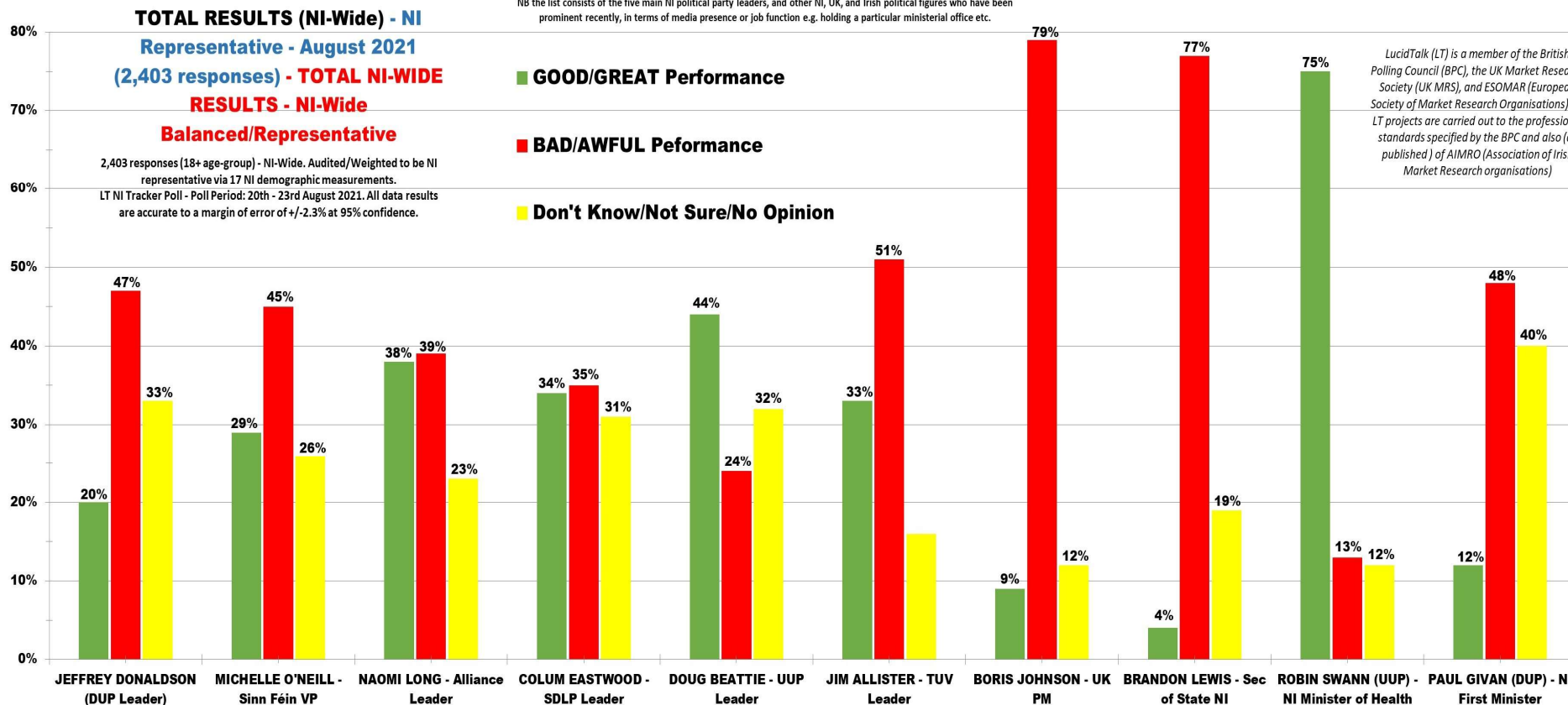
LUCIDTALK - BELFAST TELEGRAPH - NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project:
August 2021 - Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses
included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

POLL QUESTION 2: How do you rate the following political 'leaders' in terms of their overall performance in the past few months?

Belfast Telegraph

NB the list consists of the five main NI political party leaders, and other NI, UK, and Irish political figures who have been prominent recently, in terms of media presence or job function e.g. holding a particular ministerial office etc.

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e.g. 43% of Northern Ireland (NI) rate Naomi Long's leadership performance as 'Good/Great', 35% say it was 'Bad/Awful', & 22% were 'Don't Know/Not Sure' etc.

POLL QUESTION 2: NI POLITICAL LEADERS - How do you rate the following political party leaders in terms of their overall performance in the last few months? **TOTAL NI RESULTS – RESULTS TABLE:** - NI-Wide Weighted/Balanced to be NI Representative
LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021

Notes	Political Leader - LT Summer Poll 2021	LT Summer21 Poll (August 2021)			RATING TREND	RATING SCORE	
		Good/Great Performance	Neutral or Don't Know	Bad/Awful Performance	Change in Rating	Current Rating	Previous Rating - May21
	Jeffrey Donaldson(a) - DUP Leader	20%	33%	47%	+25	-27	-52 (Edwin Poots)
	Michelle O'Neill - VP Sinn Féin	29%	26%	45%	+7	-16	-23
	Naomi Long - Alliance Leader (NI Justice Minister)	38%	23%	39%	-9	-1	+8
	Colum Eastwood - SDLP Leader	34%	31%	35%	-14	-1	+13
	Doug Beattie - UUP Leader	44%	32%	24%	+6	+20	+14
	Jim Allister - TUV Leader	33%	16%	51%	-5	-18	-13
	Boris Johnson - UK Prime Minister	9%	12%	79%	-26	-70	-44
	Brandon Lewis - NI Secretary of State	4%	19%	77%	-8	-73	-65
	Robin Swann (UUP) - NI Health Minister	75%	12%	13%	-6	+62	+68
	Paul Givan (DUP) - NI First Minister(b)	12%	40%	48%	-	-36	see note (b)
Notes: (a) = Change shown is vs Edwin Poots ratings taken immediately after Edwin Poots became DUP leader. (b) = No change can be shown as this is the first LT poll with Paul Givan as First Minister. The 'Rating score' is calculated by taking the 'Good/Great performance' score, and subtracting the 'Bad/Awful performance score' score - the neutral scores are not counted for the purposes of this calculation.							

POLL QUESTION 2A: NI POLITICAL LEADERS – Ratings - How do you rate the following political party leaders in terms of their overall performance in the last few months? **NI RESULTS: LEADER RATING SCORES (Based on Q2 Results above)**

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



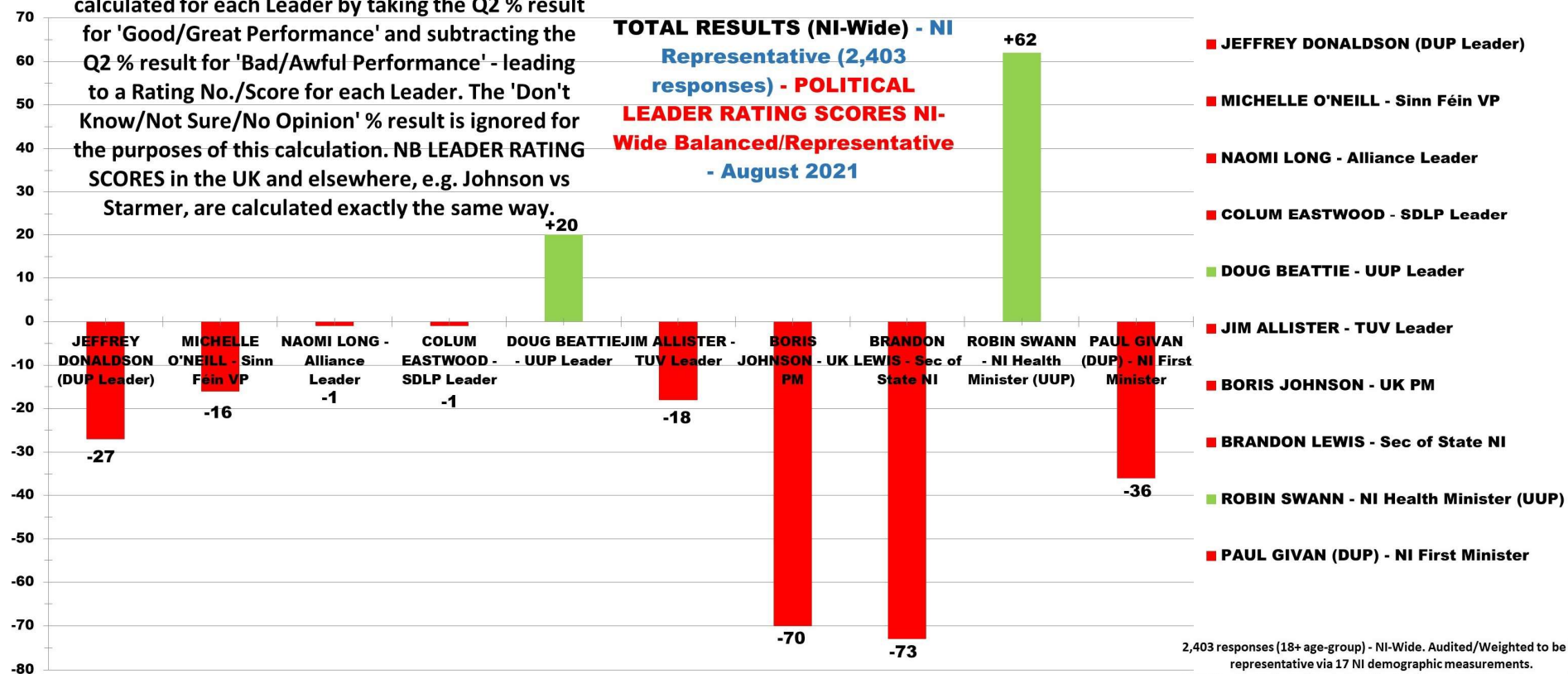
LUCIDTALK - BELFAST TELEGRAPH - NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project:
August 2021 - Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses
included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

POLL QUESTION 2: How do you rate the following political party, and political leaders, in terms of their overall performance in the last few months?

Belfast Telegraph

POLITICAL LEADER RATING SCORES: Scores are calculated for each Leader by taking the Q2 % result for 'Good/Great Performance' and subtracting the Q2 % result for 'Bad/Awful Performance' - leading to a Rating No./Score for each Leader. The 'Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion' % result is ignored for the purposes of this calculation. NB LEADER RATING SCORES in the UK and elsewhere, e.g. Johnson vs Starmer, are calculated exactly the same way.

TOTAL RESULTS (NI-Wide) - NI Representative (2,403 responses) - POLITICAL LEADER RATING SCORES NI-Wide Balanced/Representative - August 2021



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements.
LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3% at 95% confidence.

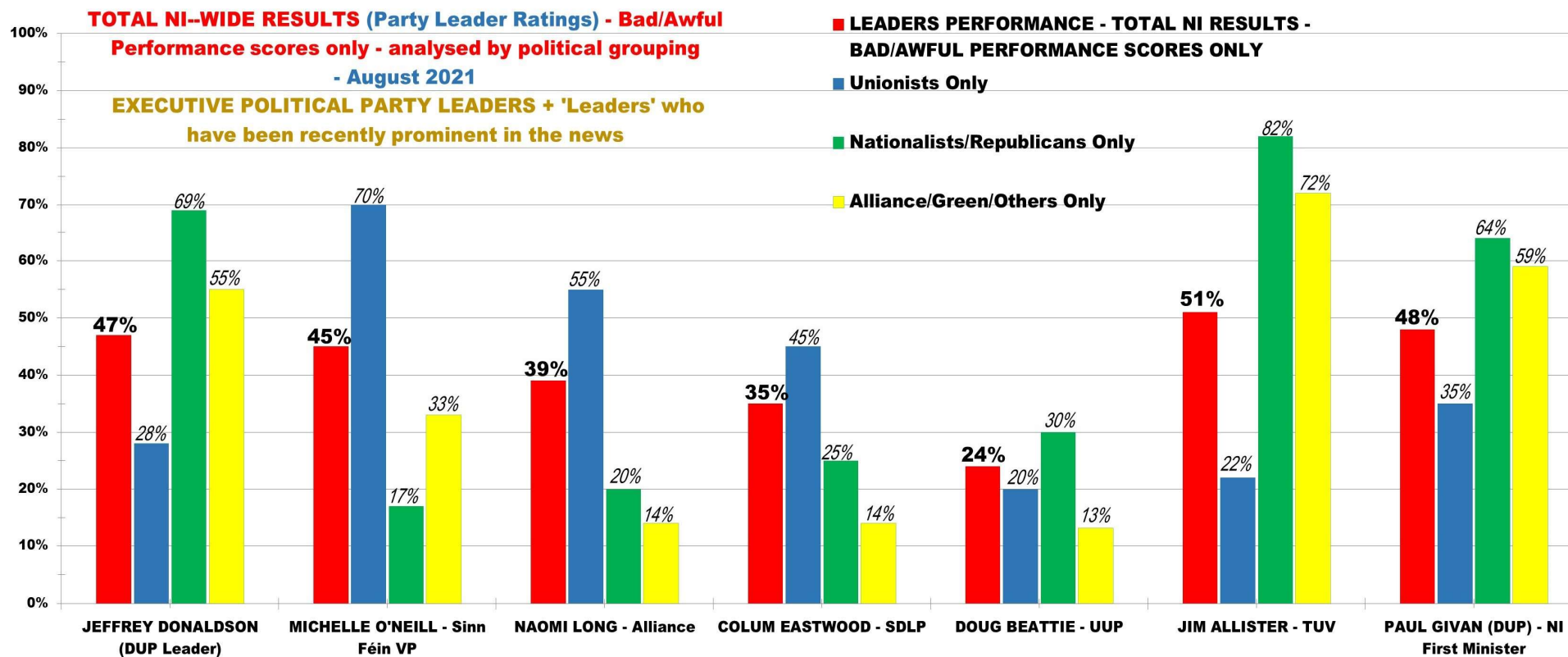
POLL QUESTION 2B: NI POLITICAL LEADERS - Analysis - How do you rate the following political party leaders in terms of their overall performance in the past few months? – **BAD/AWFUL SCORES ONLY**. Top five Executive party leaders + Jim Allister, Paul Givan – By **TOTAL NI RESULTS**, and by **UNIONISTS ONLY**, **NATIONALIST/REPUBLICANS ONLY**, AND **OTHERS ONLY**.

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



LUCIDTALK - BELFAST TELEGRAPH - NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-
Project: August 2021. Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021.
2,403 responses included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

POLL QUESTION 2: How do you rate the following political party leaders in terms of their overall performance in the last few months? **Belfast Telegraph**



e.g. 51% of NI rated Jim Allister's leadership performance as 'Bad'/'Awful' (see Q2, Page 14), - this is made up of 22% of Unionists who scored Jim Allister as 'Bad'/'Awful', 82% of Nationalists/Republicans, and 72% of Alliance/Green/Others scored Jim Allister as 'Bad'/'Awful' etc.

NOTES – Commentary regarding Poll Question 2:

NB the list consists of the five main NI political party leaders, and other NI, UK, and Irish political figures who have been prominent recently, in terms of media presence or job function e.g. holding a particular ministerial office etc.

- **Jeffrey Donaldson has scored much better than Edwin Poots did, and has advanced +25 from the rating Edwin Poots got in May, but Donaldson's rating is still -27, and Doug Beattie's score is +20.**
- **Michelle O'Neill has improved a bit i.e. up + 7, from her previous May21 score, but she is still scoring negatively at -16**
- **Naomi Long was +8 in May and she's now -1, and this small drop probably also ties-in with the drop in the Alliance vote in the projected vote shares above.**
- **Colum Eastwood is showing the same (albeit) small downward trend that Naomi Long is showing – he's on a rating of -1, and he was +13 in May.**
- **The 'big winner' in these leader ratings is Doug Beattie – he was + 14 in May and he's now +20 i.e. up 6 points.**
- **Jim Allister scores negatively overall but only by a small amount i.e. these negative scores are almost totally driven by Alliance/SF/SDLP voters as Allister scores very positively amongst unionists.**
- **Boris Johnson and Brandon Lewis score so negatively they nearly go off the scale on any graphs we collate. The scores speak for themselves i.e. 77% of NI scores Lewis as 'Bad/Awful' performance, and 79% of NI score Boris Johnson the same way!**
- **Robin Swann again scores the highest positive rating, only down slightly from our May poll, but he's still scoring very positively overall, with 75% (3 out of 4) in NI scoring his performance as 'Good/Great'.**
- **Paul Givan, doesn't score that well with 48% of NI scoring him as a 'Bad/Awful' performance, and these can't all be from the nationalist/republican voter base, and/or the Alliance voter base i.e. the 48% negative score is just too high for that. It's also notable that Givan has a high 'neutral/Don't Know' score, suggesting perhaps that the jury is still out re. his performance. Givan scores a -36 rating overall.**
- **35% of unionists score Paul Givan as 'Bad/Awful' performer, 28% of Unionists score Jefferey Donaldson the same, - but 'only' 22% of Unionists score Jim Allister as a 'Bad/Awful' performer as a party leader, and likewise 'only' 20% of Unionists score Doug Beattie as a 'Bad/Awful' performer.**

- 14% of Alliance/Green/Others score Naomi Long as a 'Bad/Awful' performer, and this is up from our last poll i.e. maybe a small sign of some dissatisfaction in the Alliance/Green ranks etc.?
- 55% of unionists score Naomi Long as a 'Bad/Awful' performer compared to only 20% of nationalists/republicans who score Naomi Long as a 'Bad/Awful' performer, - showing again that N. Long is a bit of a 'hate' figure for a large section of unionists.
- Its noteworthy that 55% of Alliance/Green/Others score J Donaldson as a 'Bad/Awful' performer, but 'only' 33% of this Alliance/Green/Others block score M. O'Neill the same way.
- Re. the party/political leader ratings – Robin Swann seems to have got respect from all sides, and scores the highest rating at +62.
- Note once again, and similar to our May 2021 poll, the hugely negative scores for both Brandon Lewis (-73) and Boris Johnson (-70) – surprisingly Brandon Lewis is even more negatively thought of than Boris Johnson!
- Once again, Naomi Long scores a big negative score from Unionists of 55% - and this contributed to her overall negative score of 39%. A large chunk of DUP/UUP/TUV voters do not like Naomi Long, and don't think she is a good performer – but not liking her is probably the more important factor!
- Michelle O'Neill is improving, and has been improving steadily over our last 2-3 quarterly polls. You will see Michelle O'Neill has an overall score rating of minus 23 (-16), though this is 'up' from her May 2021 score of -23, and up from her January 2021 score of -33!

POLL QUESTION 3 – BORDER POLL TIMING:

In principle, do you think there should or should not be a Referendum (“a Border Poll”) on whether Northern Ireland stays in the United Kingdom or joins a united Ireland, at some point in the next five years?

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide ‘Tracker’ Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021

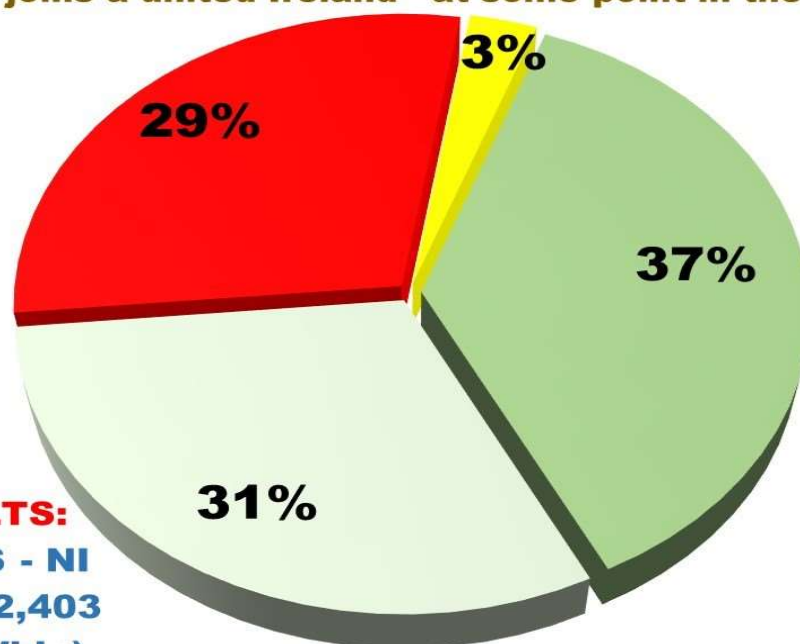


LUCIDTALK - OBSERVER/BELFAST TELEGRAPH: NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project - August 2021. Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample.

The Observer

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 3: In principle, do you think there should or should not be a Referendum (i.e. ‘a Border Poll’) on whether Northern Ireland stays in the United Kingdom or joins a united Ireland - at some point in the next five years?



- There **SHOULD BE** a NI Border Referendum within the next 5 years
- There **SHOULD BE** a NI Border Referendum at some stage, but not within the next 5 years
- There **SHOULD NEVER** be a NI Border Referendum
- Don't Know/Not Sure/No Opinion

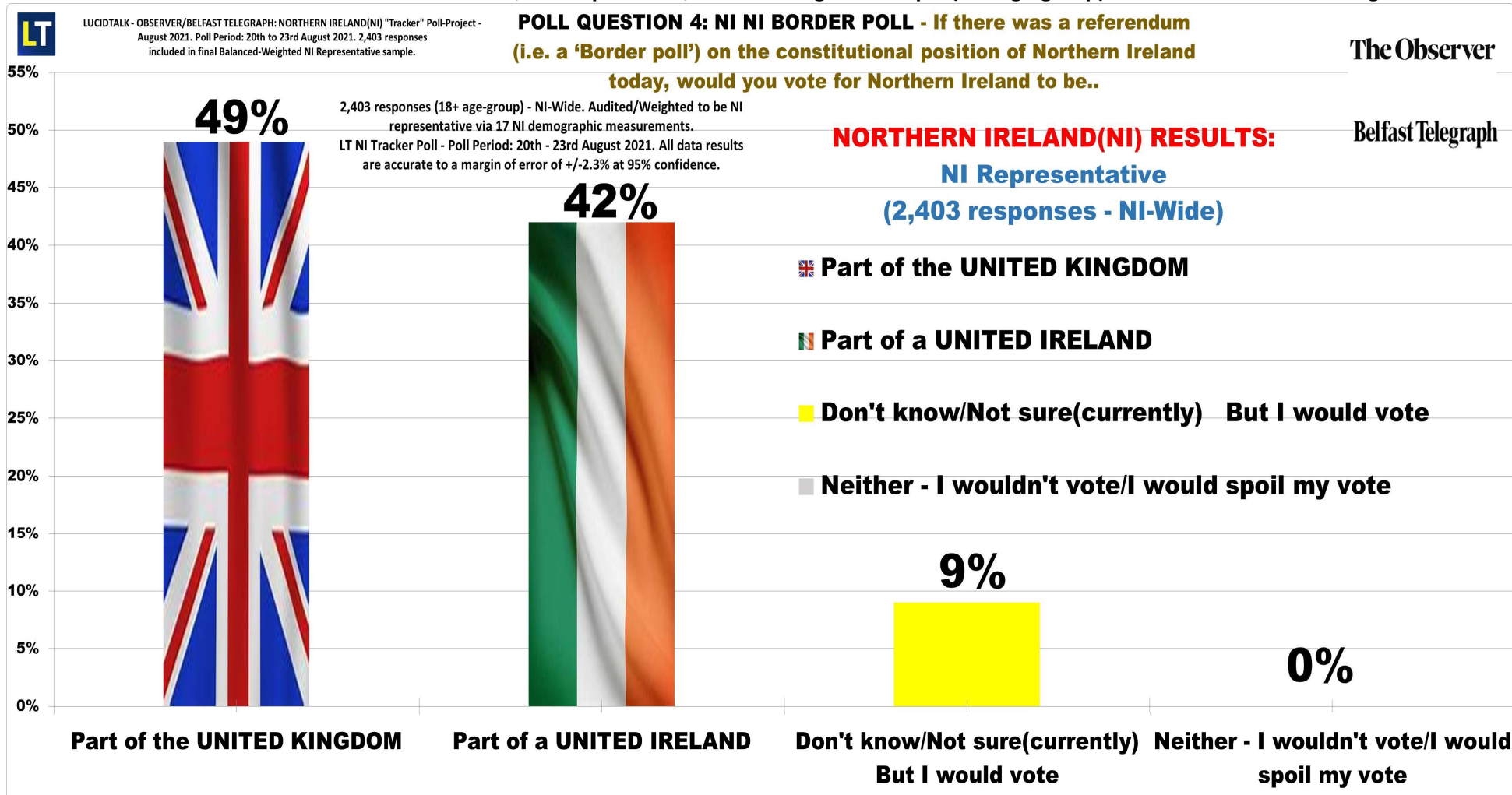
NI-WIDE RESULTS:
TOTAL RESULTS - NI
Representative (2,403
responses - NI-Wide)

LucidTalk (LT) is a member of the British Polling Council (BPC), the UK Market Research Society (UK MRS) and ESOMAR (European Society of Market Research Organisations). All LT projects are carried out to the professional standards specified by the BPC and also (as published) of AIMRO (Association of Irish Market Research organisations)

2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 4 – NI NI BORDER POLL: If there was a referendum (i.e. a ‘Border poll’) on the constitutional position of Northern Ireland today, would you vote for Northern Ireland to be..

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide ‘Tracker’ Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



POLL QUESTION 5 – COVID RESTRICTIONS: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September?

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021

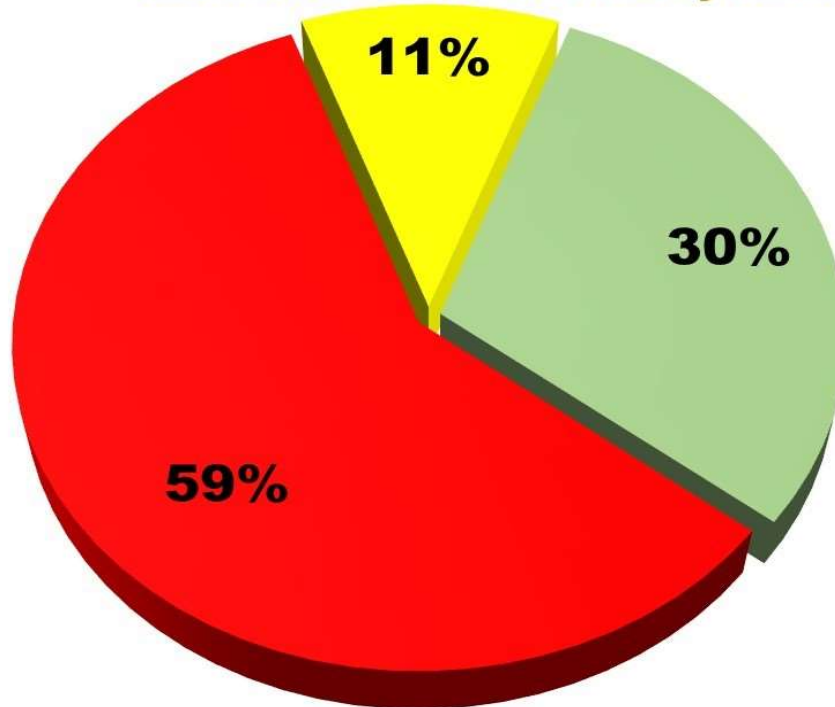


LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses
included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 5: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September?



NI Representative (2,403 responses)
- **TOTAL NI-WIDE RESULTS**

■ **YES**

■ **NO**

■ **Don't Know/Not
Sure/No Opinion**

2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 5 – COVID RESTRICTIONS – DUP ONLY: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September? – DUP VOTERS ONLY

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021

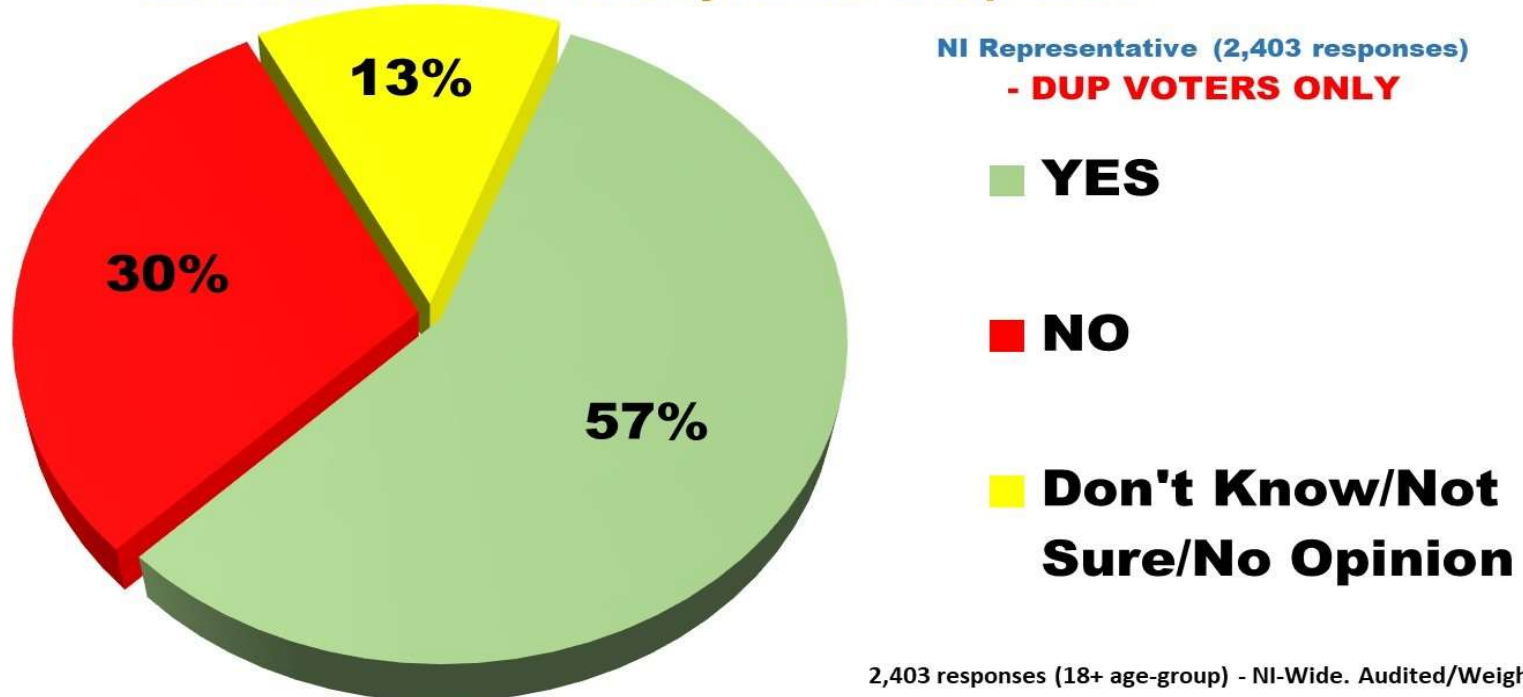


LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses
included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 5: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September?



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 5 – COVID RESTRICTIONS – Sinn Féin ONLY: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September? – Sinn Féin VOTERS ONLY

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021

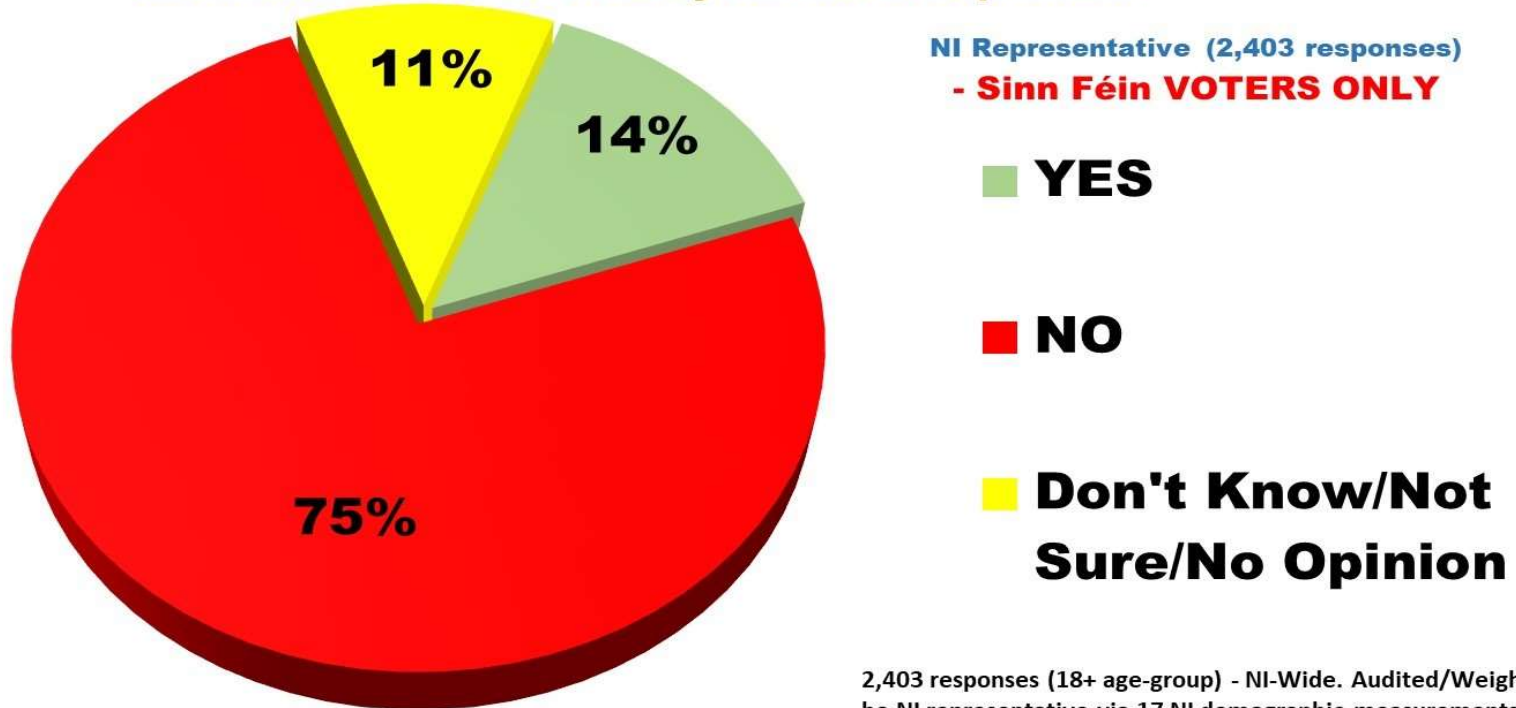


LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses
included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 5: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September?



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 5 – COVID RESTRICTIONS – UUP ONLY: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September? – UUP VOTERS ONLY

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021

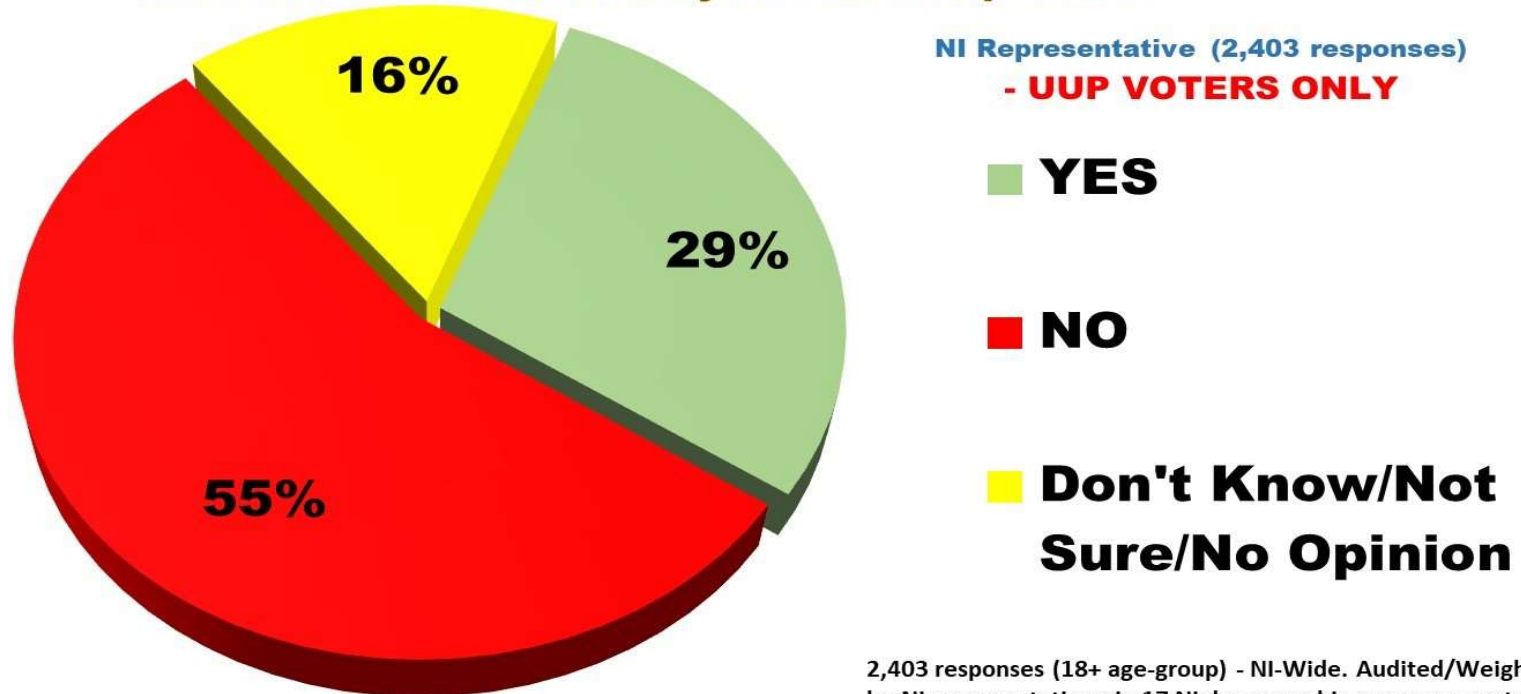


LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses
included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 5: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September?



NI Representative (2,403 responses)

- UUP VOTERS ONLY

■ **YES**

■ **NO**

■ **Don't Know/Not
Sure/No Opinion**

2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 5 – COVID RESTRICTIONS – ALLIANCE ONLY: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September? – ALLIANCE VOTERS ONLY

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021

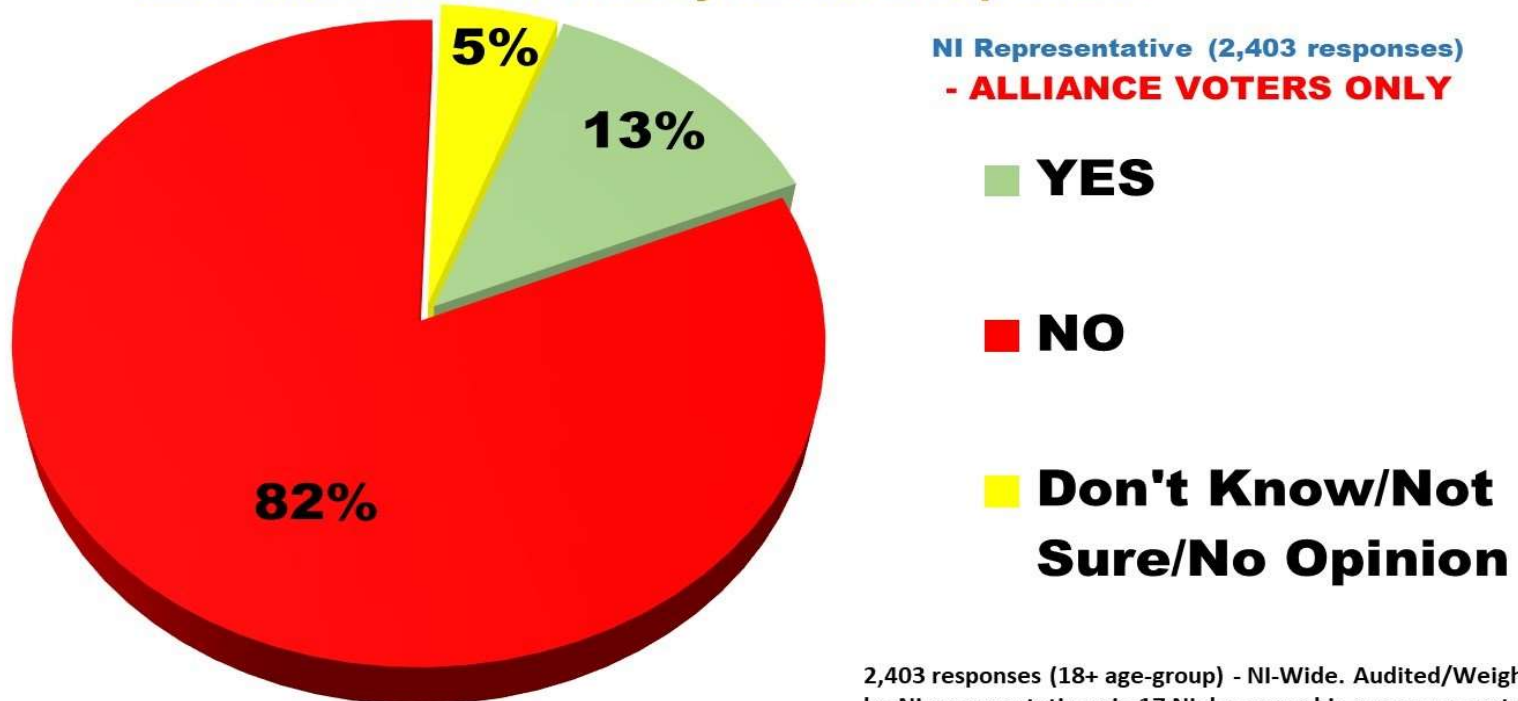


LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses
included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 5: Do you agree with NI First Minister Paul Givan's suggestion that all Covid restrictions should be lifted by the end of September?



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 6 – COVID VACCINES: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine?

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

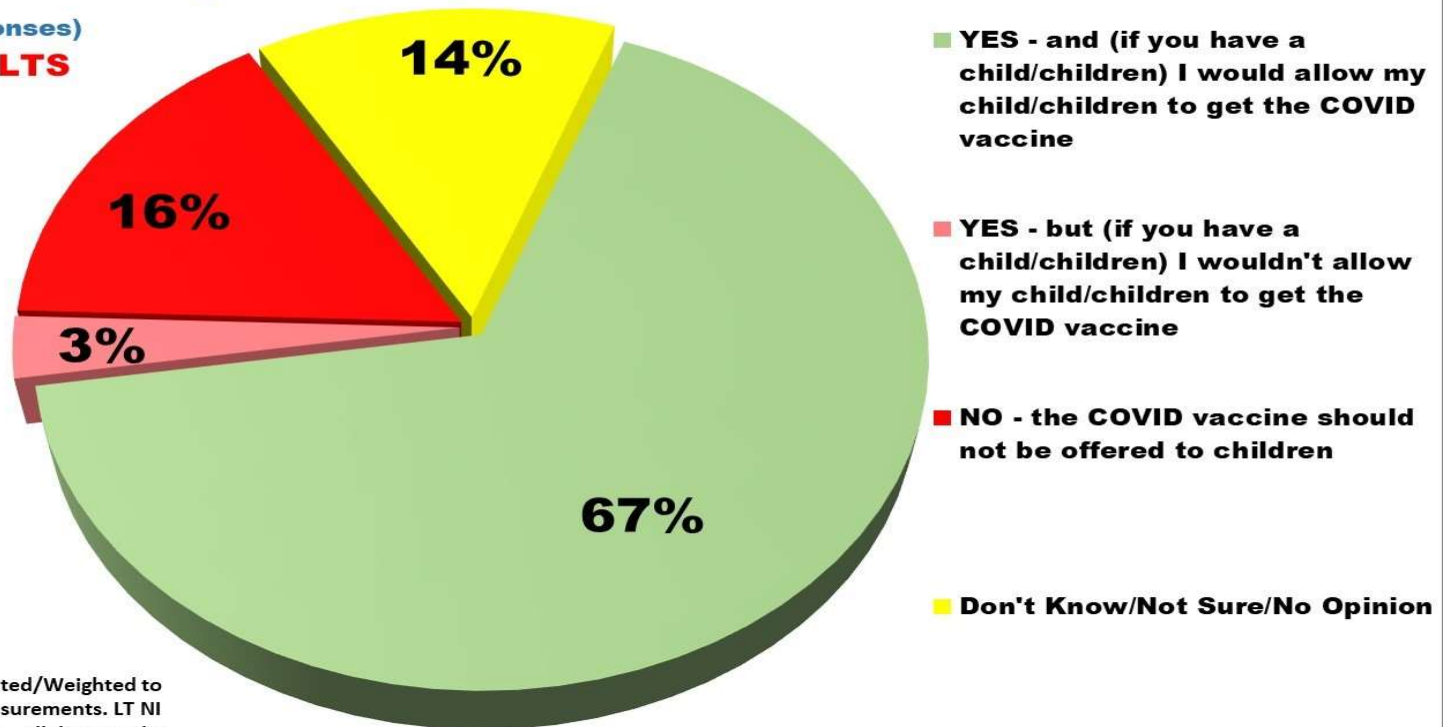
Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses

included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 6: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine?

NI Representative (2,403 responses)
- **TOTAL NI-WIDE RESULTS**



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 6 – COVID VACCINES – PROTESTANTS ONLY: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine? – PROTESTANT VOTERS ONLY

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

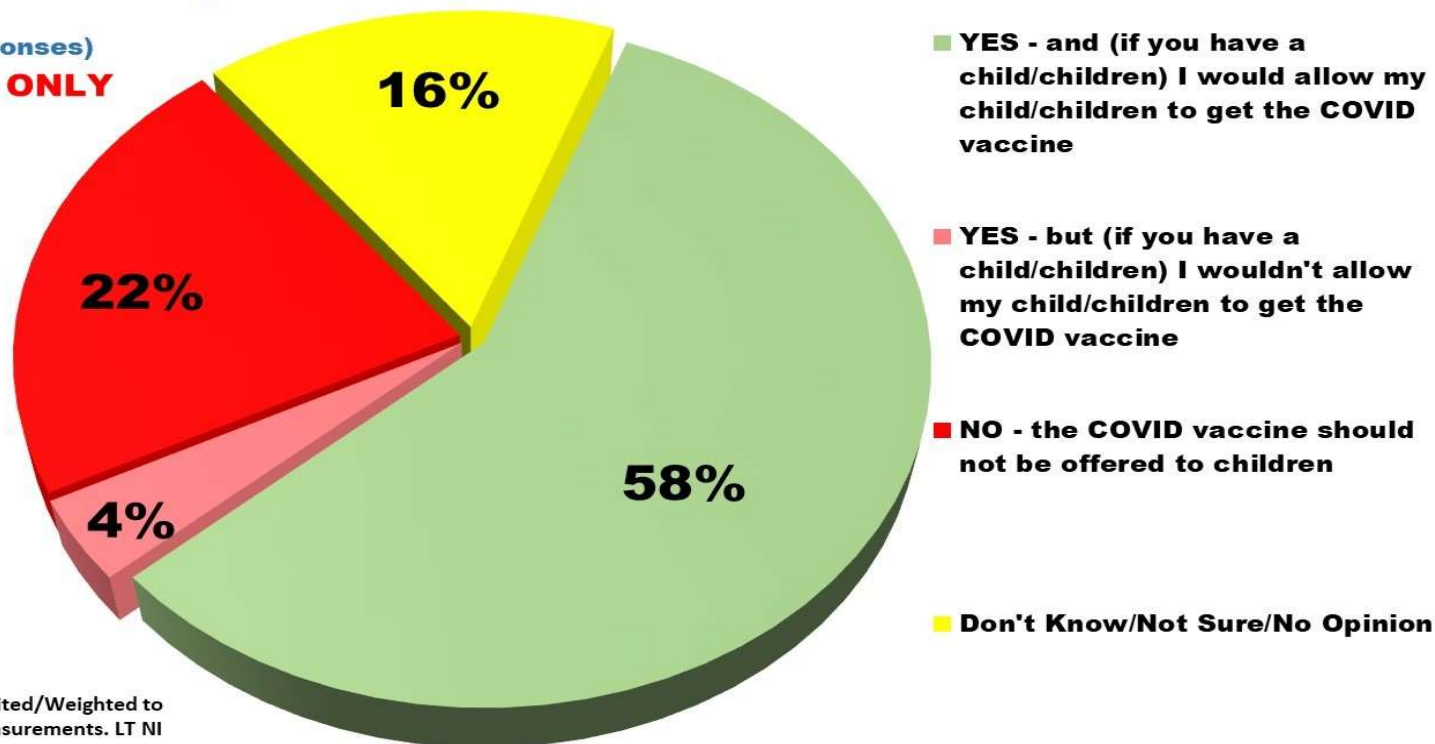
Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses

included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 6: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine?

NI Representative (2,403 responses)
- **PROTESTANT VOTERS ONLY**



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 6 – COVID VACCINES – R. CATHOLICS ONLY: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine? – R. CATHOLIC VOTERS ONLY

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

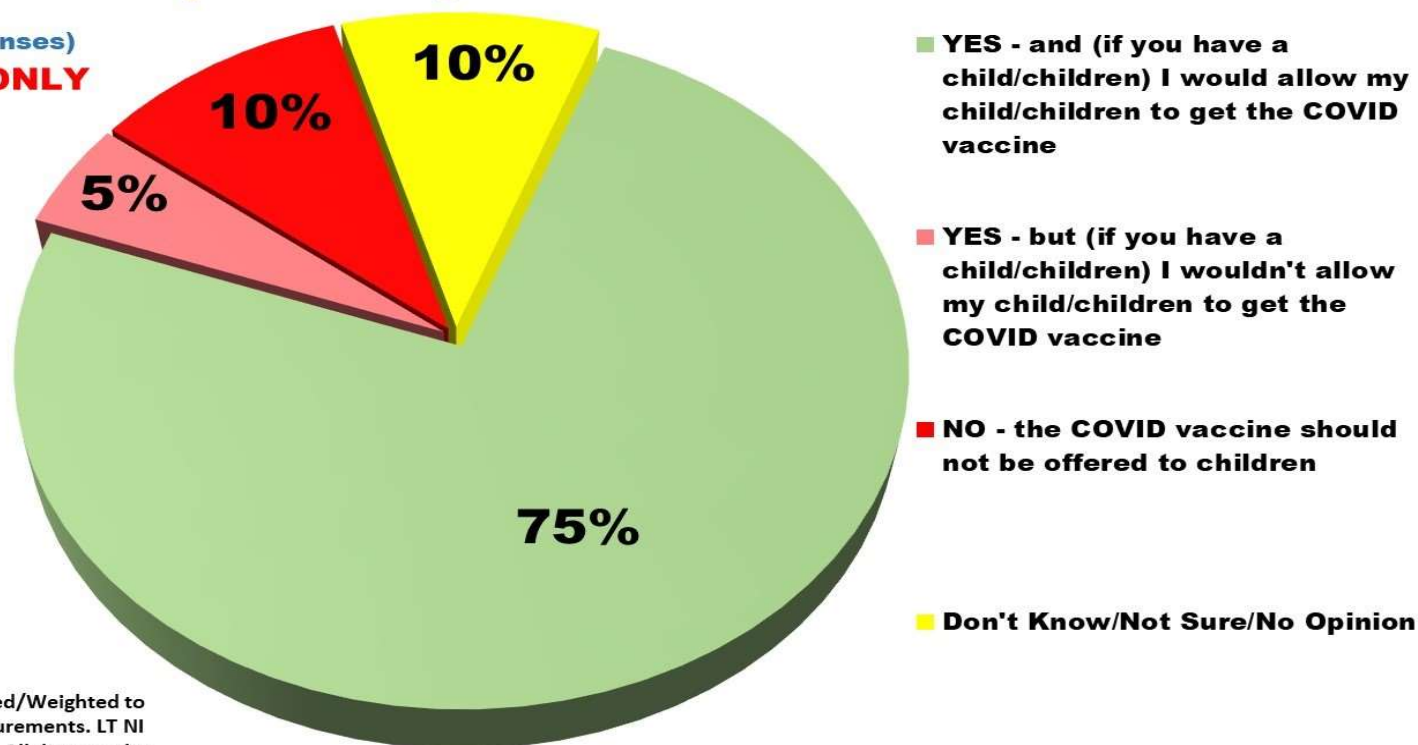
Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses

included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 6: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine?

**NI Representative (2,403 responses)
- R. CATHOLIC VOTERS ONLY**



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 6 – COVID VACCINES – OTHER RELIGION ONLY: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine? – OTHER RELIGION VOTERS ONLY

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses

included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

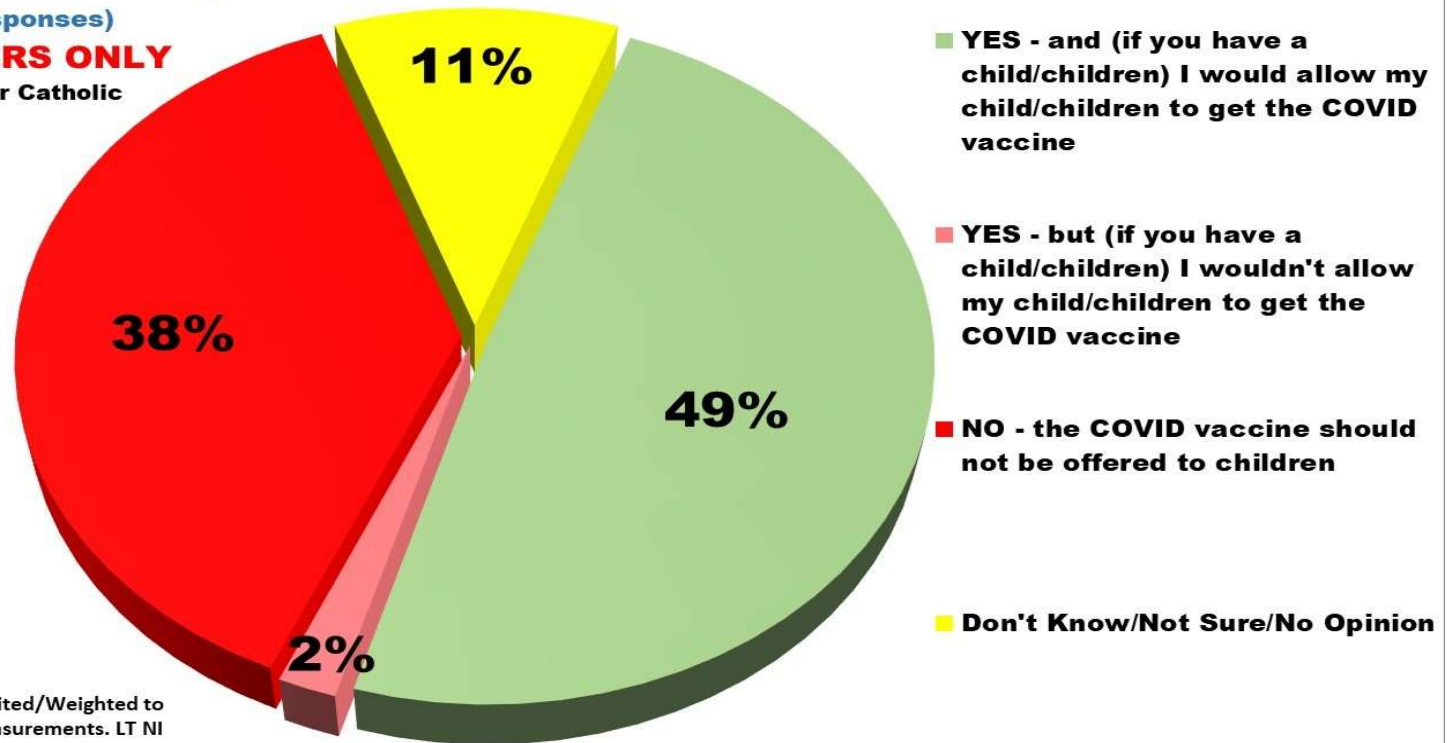
Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 6: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine?

NI Representative (2,403 responses)

- OTHER RELIGION VOTERS ONLY

'Other religion' = Not Protestant or Catholic



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

POLL QUESTION 6 – COVID VACCINES – NO RELIGION ONLY: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine? – NO RELIGION VOTERS ONLY

LT Summer 2021 LucidTalk NI-Wide 'Tracker' Poll – 2,435 responses: 2,403 final weighted sample (18+ age-group): Poll-Period 20th to 23rd August 2021



LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND(NI) "Tracker" Poll-Project: August 2021

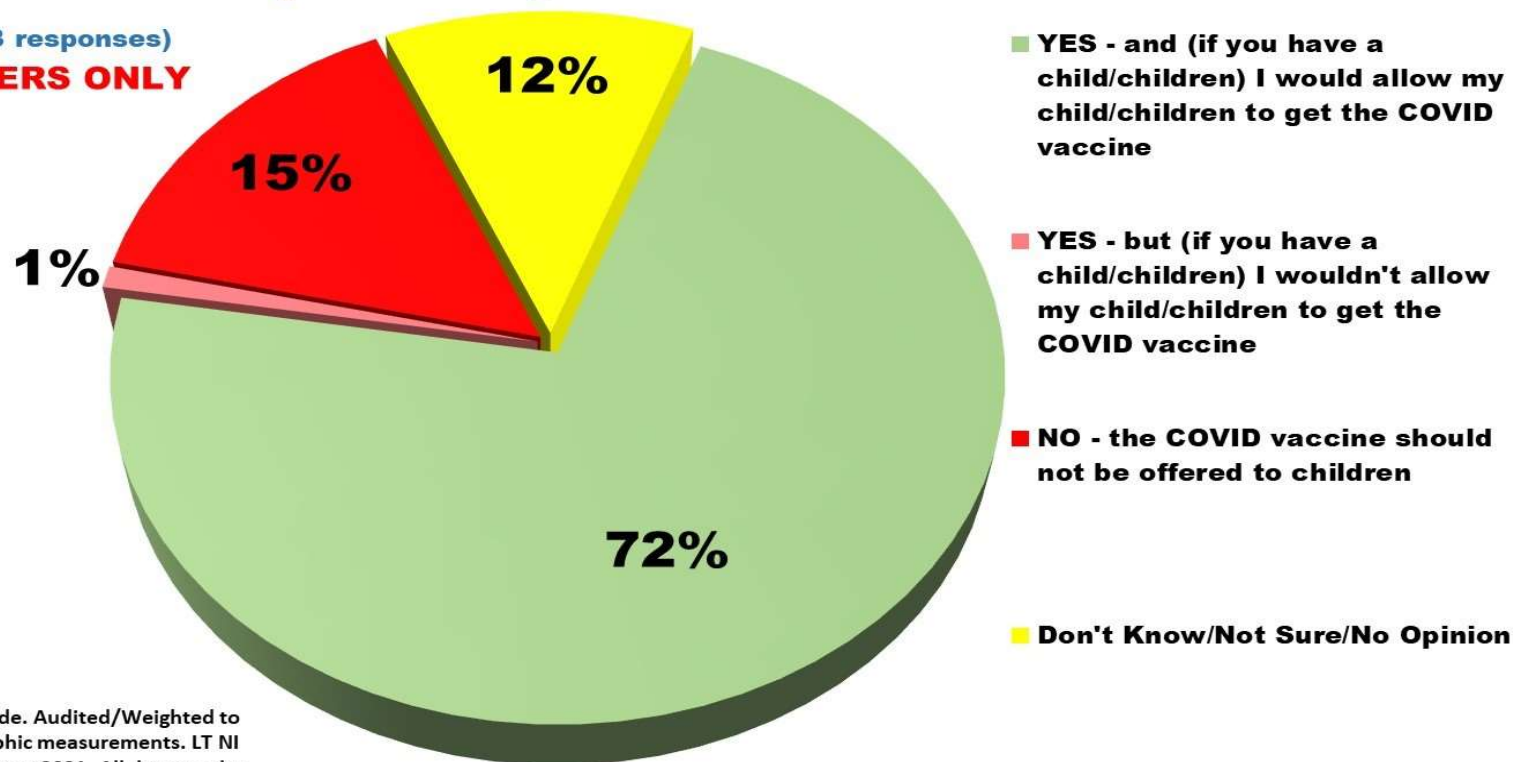
Poll Period: 20th to 23rd August 2021. 2,403 responses

included in final Balanced-Weighted NI Representative sample

Belfast Telegraph

POLL QUESTION 6: Do you think Covid vaccines should be offered to ALL children? + Would you allow your child to get the Covid vaccine?

NI Representative (2,403 responses)
- NO RELIGION VOTERS ONLY



2,403 responses (18+ age-group) - NI-Wide. Audited/Weighted to be NI representative via 17 NI demographic measurements. LT NI Tracker Poll - Poll Period: 20th - 23rd August 2021. All data results are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence.

Appendix 1 – Background on Project Methodology and Data Weighting

LUCIDTALK NORTHERN IRELAND TRACKER POLLS – Background, Project Methodology, and Data-Weighting

LucidTalk run scheduled regular 'Tracker' polls of their established Northern Ireland online Opinion Panel - usually on a quarterly basis. The LucidTalk Opinion Panel (now 13,688 members) consists of Northern Ireland residents (age 18+) and is balanced by gender, age-group, area of residence, and community background, in order to be demographically representative of Northern Ireland. The objective of these scheduled and regular 'Tracker' polls is to research opinion on key issues at key points in time, plus track changes in trends and opinions about key topics and issues over targeted periods of time.

In terms of this project, polling was carried out by Belfast based polling and market research company LucidTalk. The project was carried out online for a period of 4 days from 20th to 23rd August 2021. For this 'Tracker' poll-project a targeted sector (designed by computer) of the current LT 13,688 member online NI Opinion Panel was invited to participate, and 2,676 responses were received, and data audited to ensure:

(a) 'one person-one vote' responses, and

(b) the collation of a robust, accurate, and balanced representative NI sample,

- The main 2,676 response data-set was 'weighted down' and a 2,403 NI representative full response data-set was used for Question 1 analysis, and a 2,556 response data-set for Questions 2-6.

These 2,403/2,556 response data-sets was/were used and verified as the base data-sets (unweighted). Then in order to produce a robust, accurate, balanced NI representative sample, these base data-sets were weighted to reflect the demographic composition of Northern Ireland. The full data-tables comprising the complete unweighted/weighted results will be in a complementary report in excel/csv format (see below).

Data Weighting: Data was weighted to the profile of all NI adults aged 18+. Data was weighted by age-group, gender, socio-economic group, previous voting patterns, constituency, constitutional position, party support and religious affiliation, occupational grade (using data from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency - NISRA), EU Referendum Vote, the 2017 Northern Ireland Assembly election results, and the 2019 NI Westminster election results. This resulted in a robust and accurate balanced NI representative sample, reflecting the demographic composition of Northern Ireland, resulting in 2,403 responses being considered in terms of the final results - these are the results presented in this report. Data was weighted using a raking algorithm, in R, otherwise known as iterative proportional fitting or sample-balancing. Raking ratio estimation is a method for adjusting the sampling weights of the sample data based on known population characteristics.

As part of the data weighting process two weights are calculated. These are the normal weight and the trimmed weight – with the trimmed weight being the one that is used in the results tables shown in this report. The trimmed weight is preferable as it reduces the influence of outlying observations. The total amount trimmed is divided among the observations that were not trimmed, so that the total weight remains the same. The weights are trimmed at 4 and 0.1 meaning that no observation is allowed to exceed these limits of relative importance. For the main poll weights were/are calculated from data such as the 2016, 2017, and 2019 Northern Ireland (NI) elections, NI census estimates, and electorate election figures for gender, age, religion, constituency etc. This data analysis was then combined with previous polling information and results from LucidTalk NI polls in the last 4 years for party and constitutional position.

LucidTalk is a member of the British Polling Council (BPC) and abides by its rules: britishpollingcouncil.org.

As per BPC regulations, full Data-Tables for each LucidTalk project, including weighted and unweighted data figures for each poll question, will be published on the LucidTalk website 48-72 hours after publication of the poll results in the public domain.

For further information, please contact:

Bill White at LucidTalk: 07711 450545 - Email: bill.white@lucidtalk.co.uk

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