

Employee Housing Survey

September 2025



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Chamber**
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**Better
Regions
Initiative**

2025 so far...



Granted Planning Permissions



Key Findings

- Not reflective of what comes to market – only what could potentially come
- QH1 25:
 - Down 43% from H1 '24
 - Down 73% from H1 '22
 - Down 17% from H1 '19

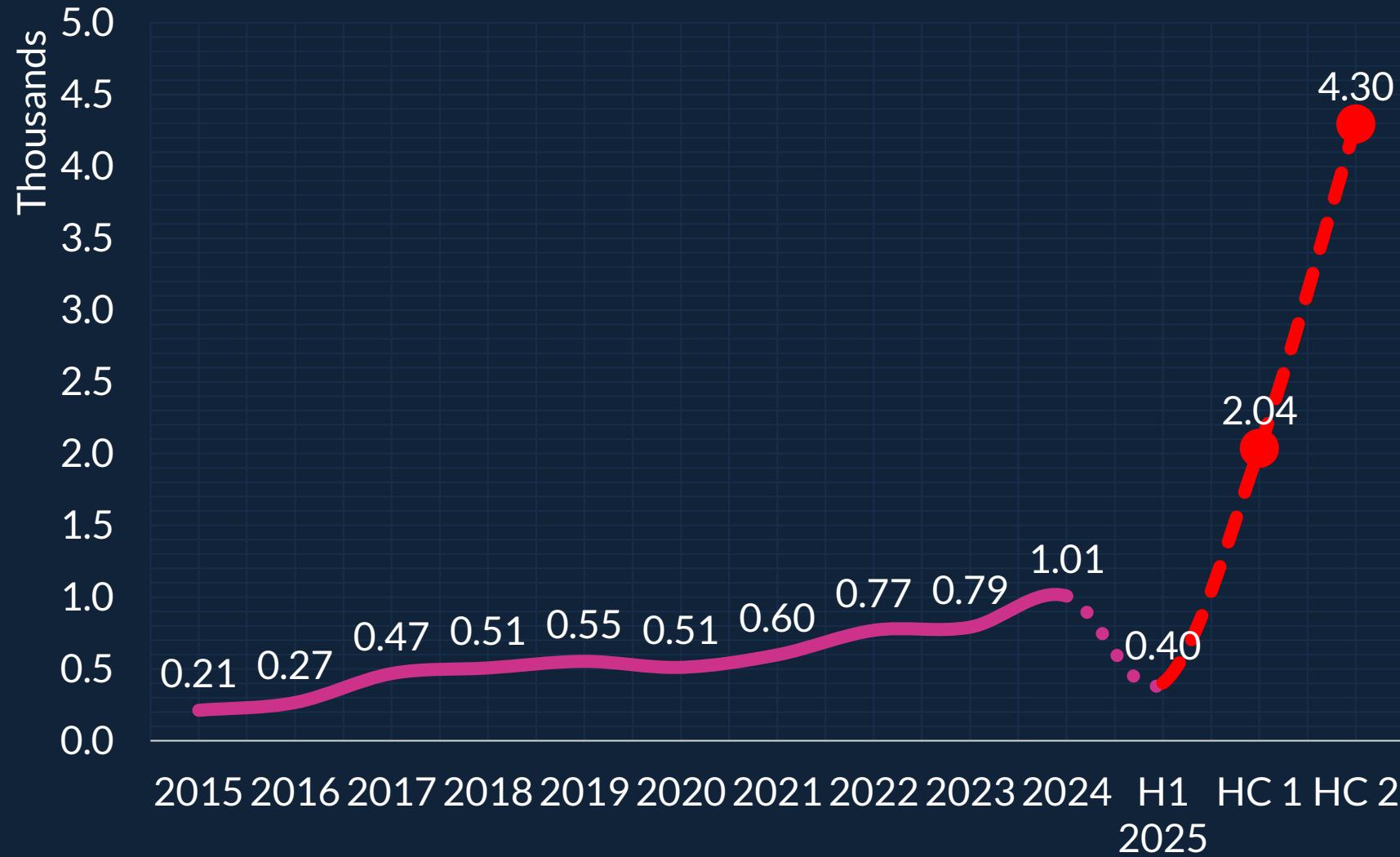
Housing Commencements



Key Findings

- Huge influence by development levy waiver (paper commencements)
- 2025 data is for January to July
- Down 53% on 2024
- Down 8% on 2023
- Down 18% on 2022
- Down 13% on 2021
- Up 19% on 2020 (covid)

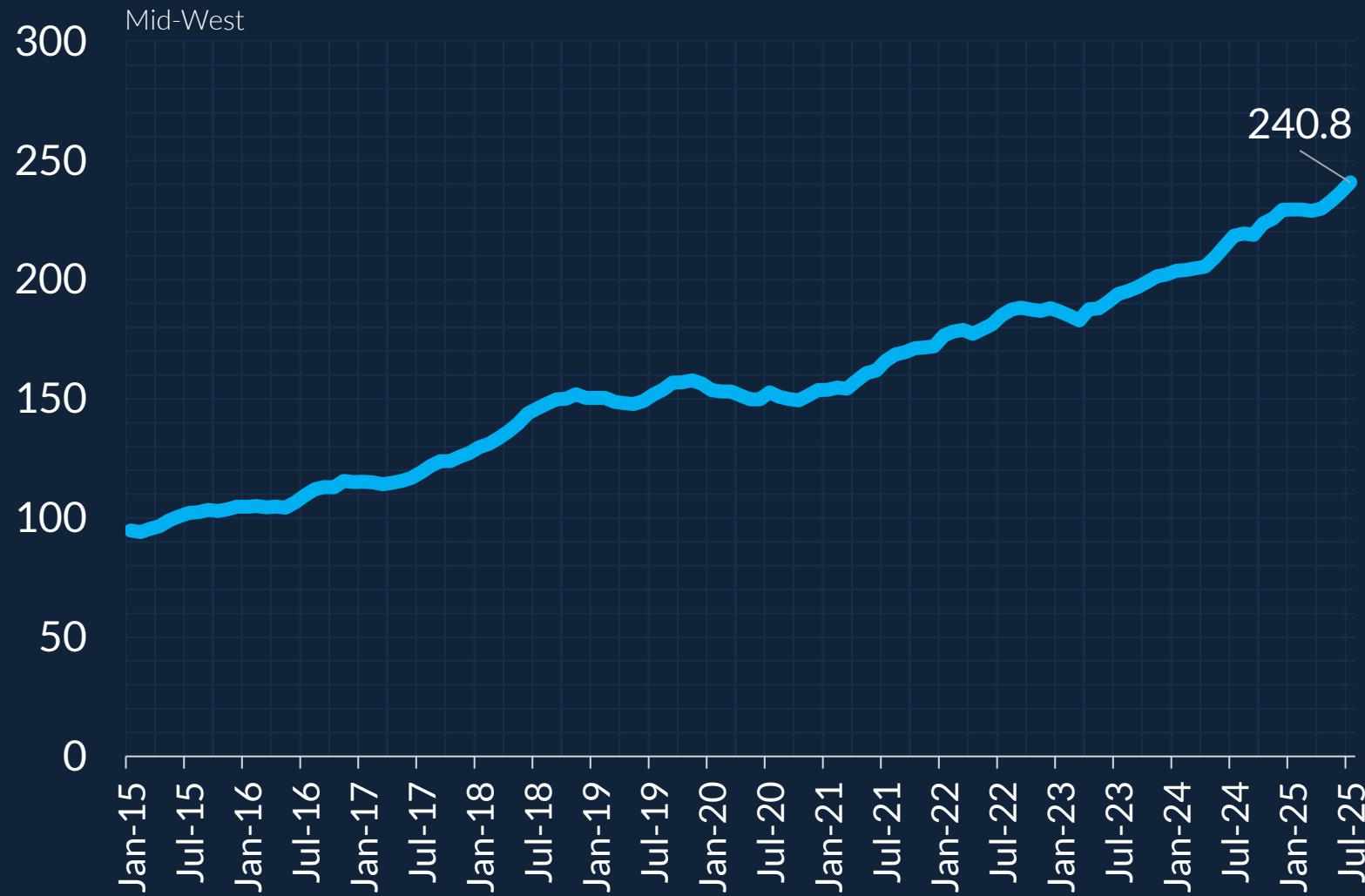
Housing Completions



Key Findings

- 1,008 homes completed in 2024, needs to double or quadruple
- 2025 H1:
 - Down 3.4% on 2024
 - Up 14.5% on 2023
 - Up 11.3% on 2022

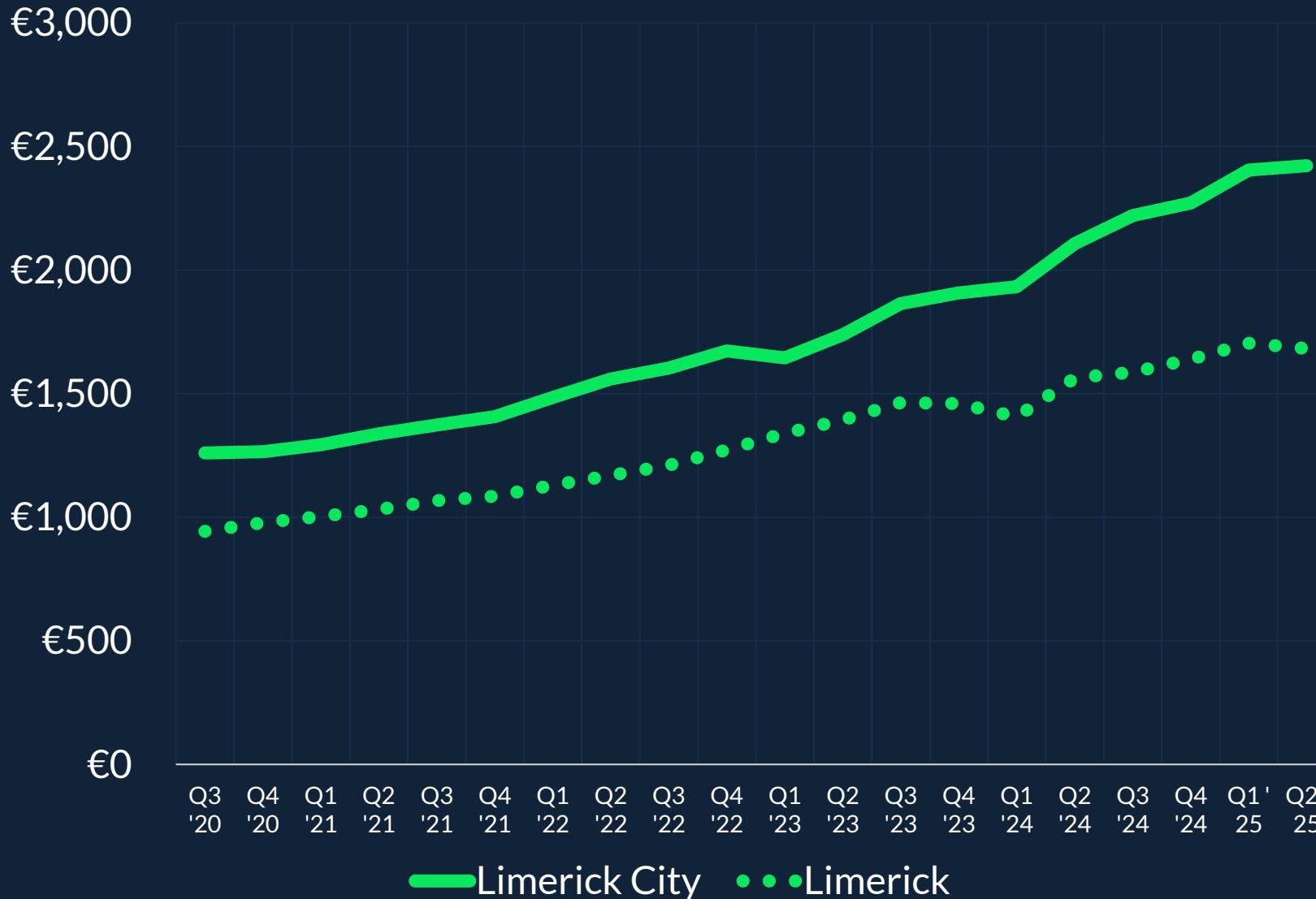
Property Price Growth



Key Findings

- Highest ever recorded in July 2025
- Up 10% on July 2024
- Up 24% on July 2023
- Up 30% on July 2022
- Up 59% since July 2019
- Up 139% since July 2015

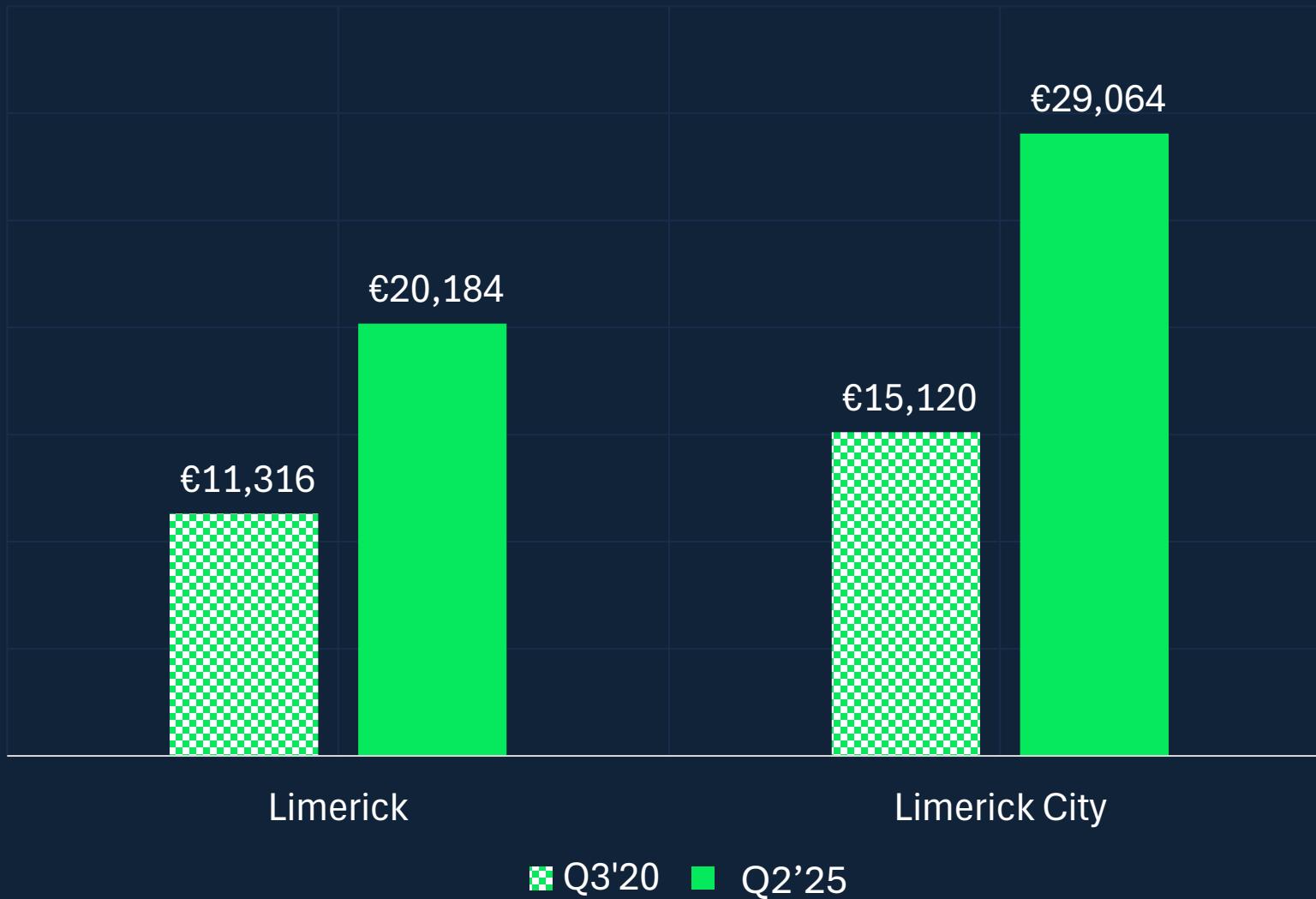
Rental Price Growth



Key Findings

- Highest ever recorded
- Limerick City
 - Up 98% from 2019
- Limerick
 - Up 88% from 2019

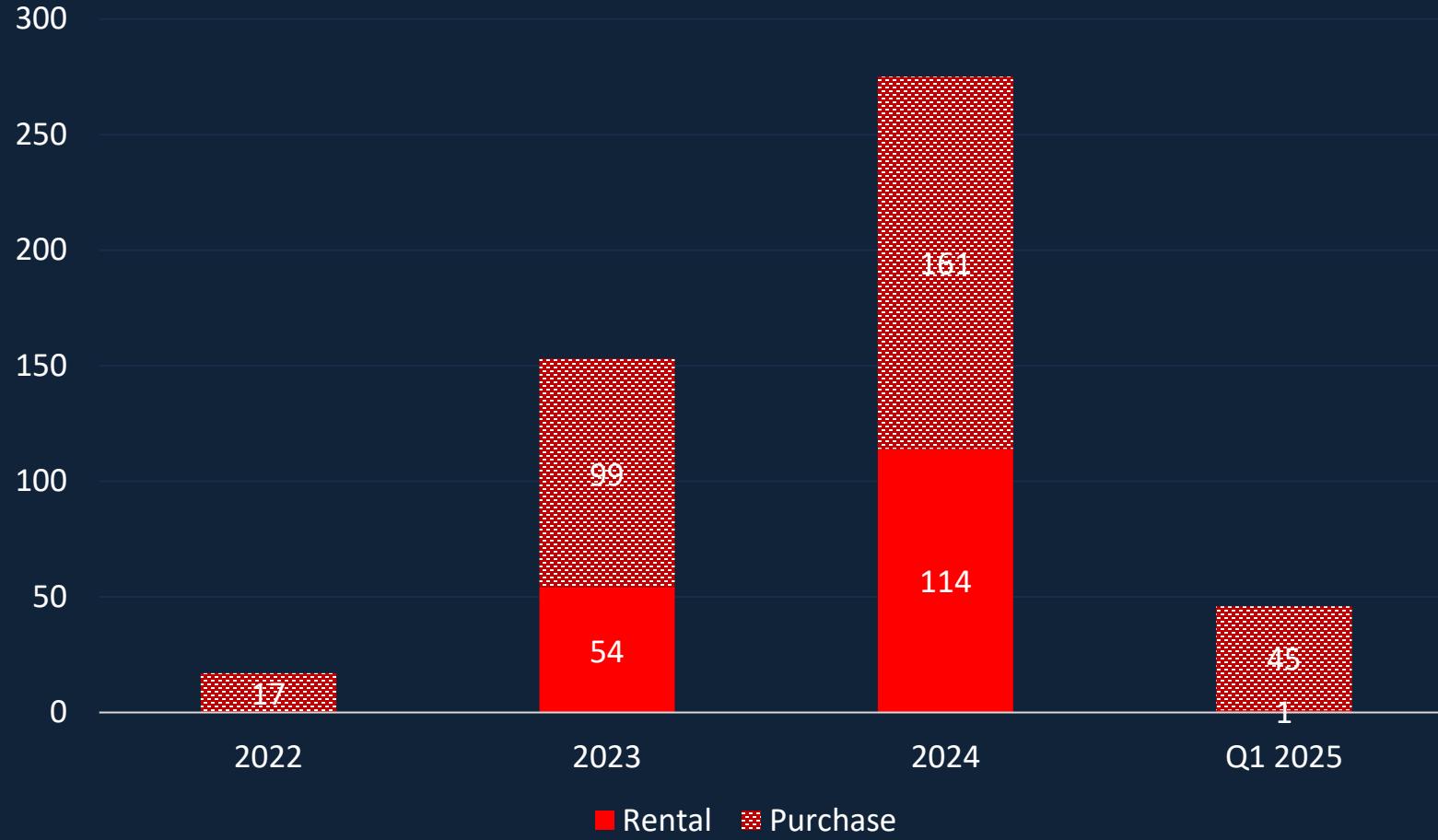
Putting it into perspective



New “Affordable” Housing

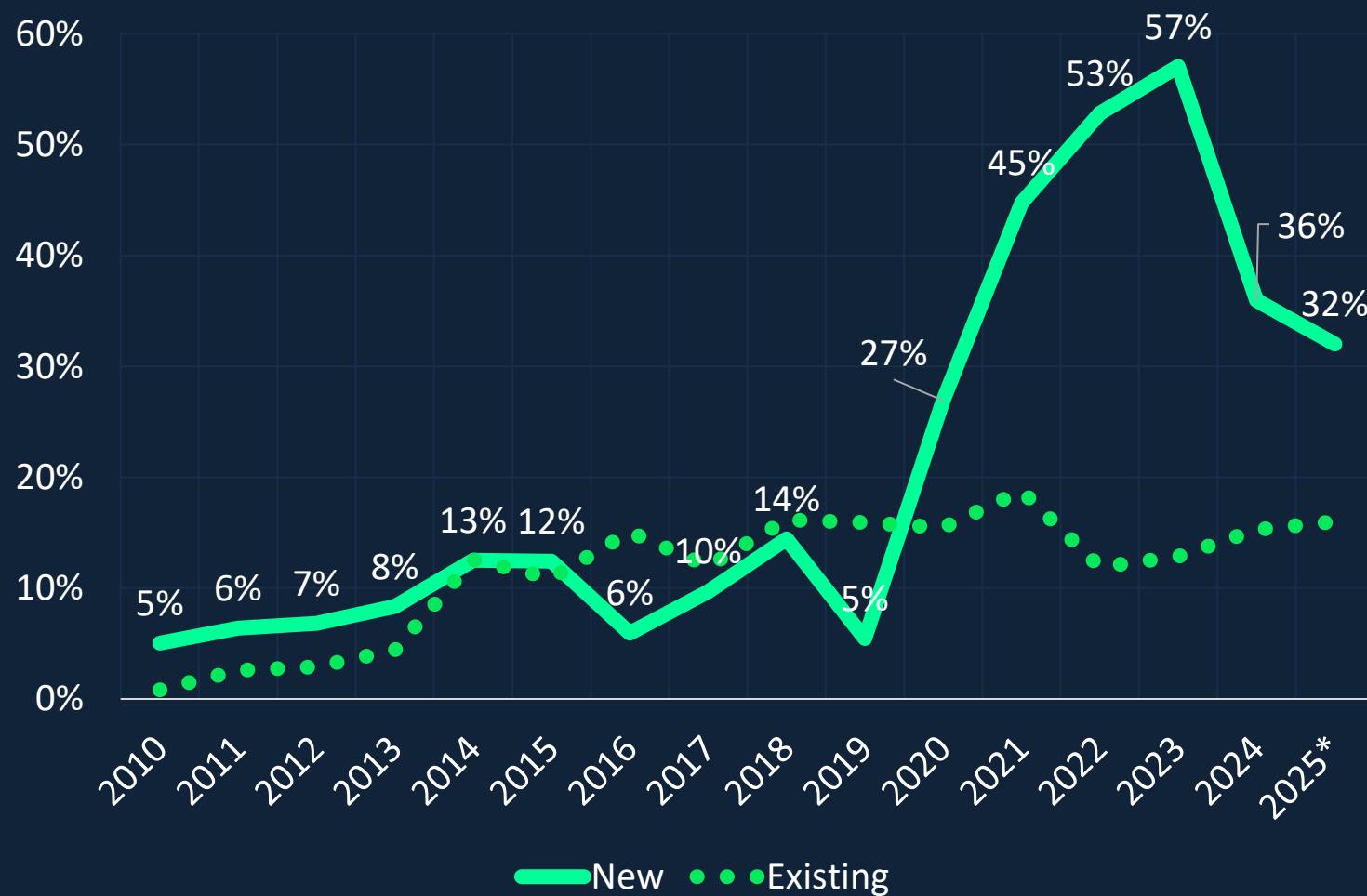


Key Findings



- Affordable purchase = LA affordable purchase scheme, first home scheme and vacant property refurbishment grant
- Rental = cost rental (LA, AHB, LDA), Cost Rental Tenant in Situ
- *Cost Rental Tenant in Situ provides “affordability” but not additionality
- **3.5% of national affordable delivery in Limerick 22-24**
- Trending upwards over time.

Purchases by “non-households”



Key Findings

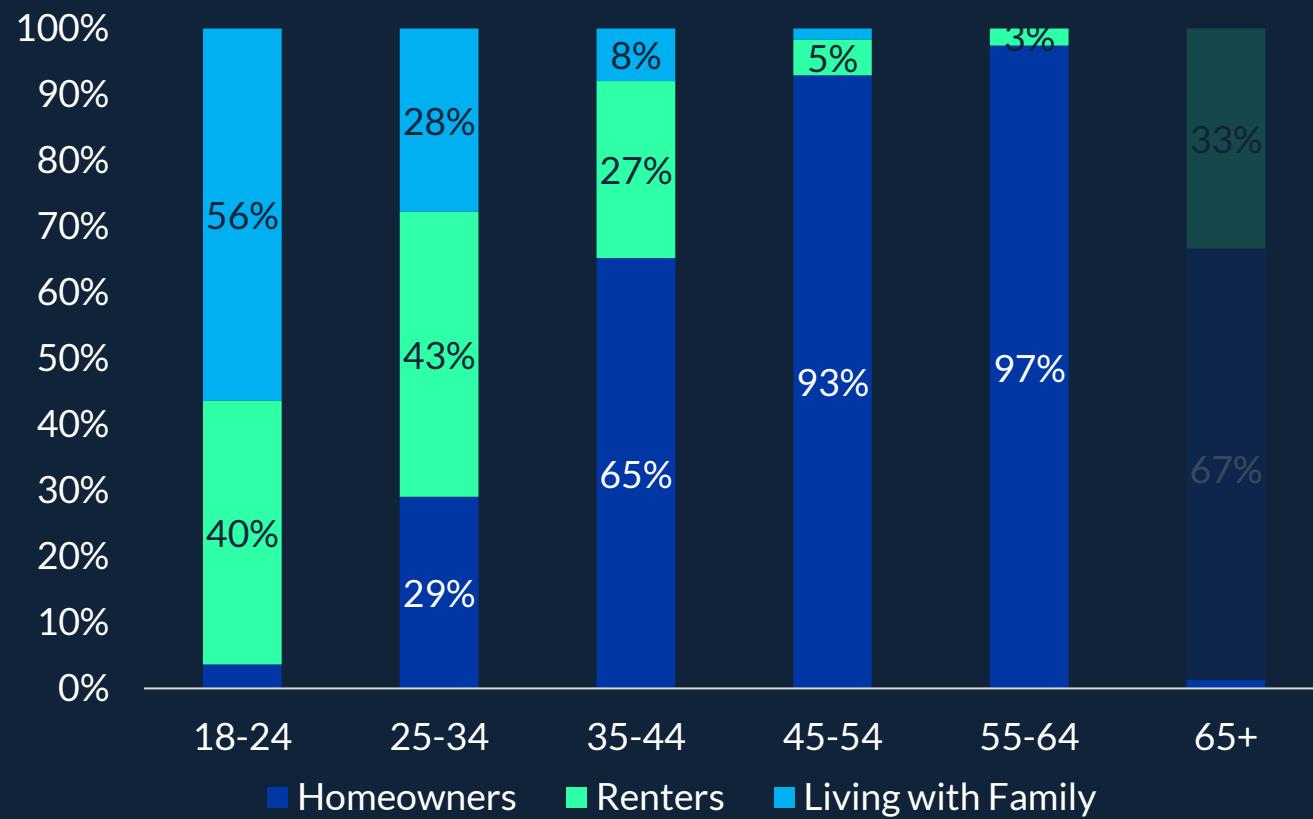
- Number of transactions rather than number of homes, number of homes likely higher
- Explosion in the data post-2019
- Severe market interference and supply reduction
- PfG aims to restrict local authorities and AHBs in bulk purchase at end of construction process

Demographics & Existing Situation



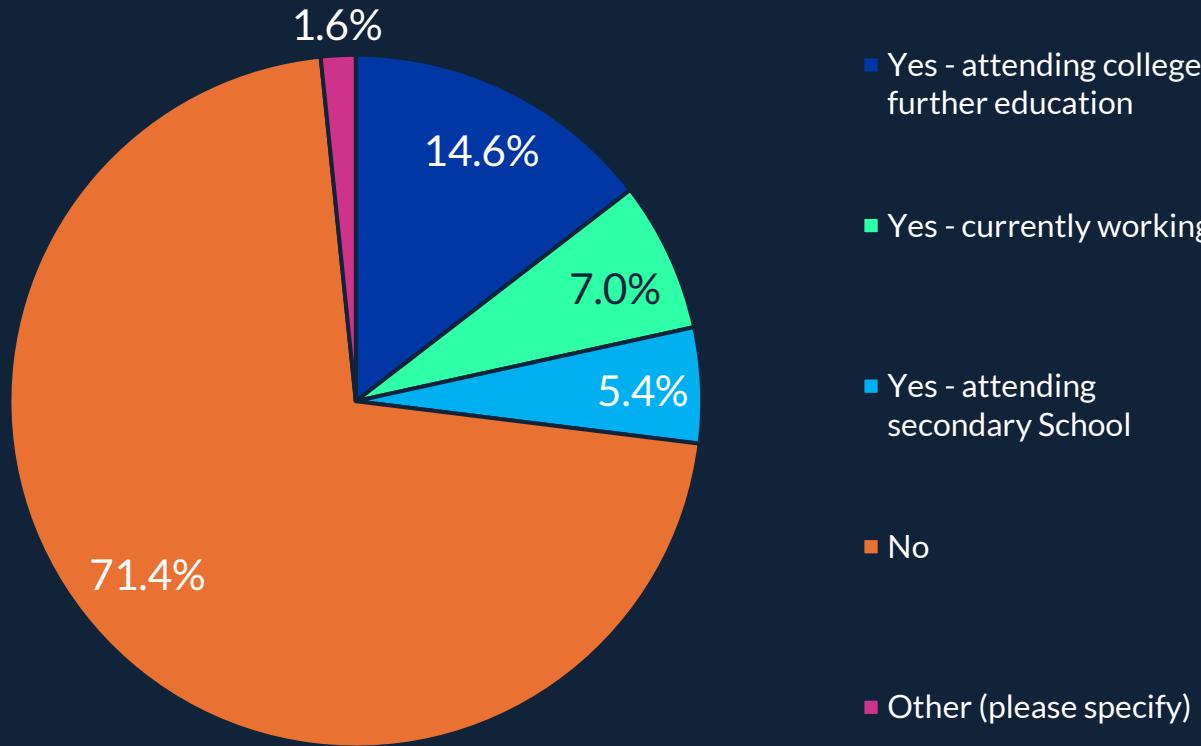
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Age Profile - Living Situation



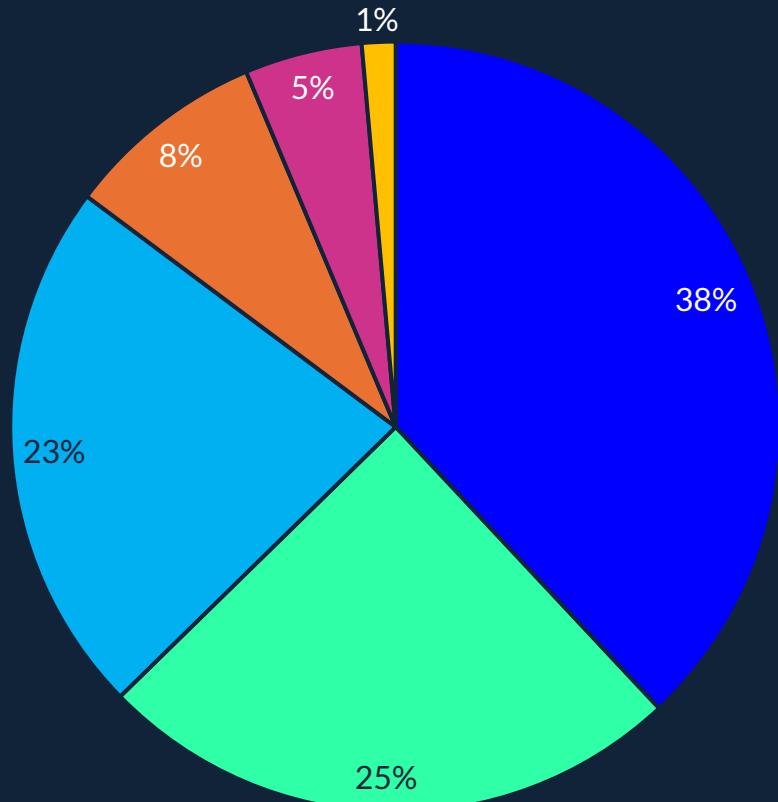
- 18 – 34 cohort more likely to rent or live with family
- 35+ cohort more likely to be homeowners
- Almost one third of those aged 25 – 35 are living with parents / family
- *Only three observations for 65+*

Adult Children Living with Parents



- 27% of Homeowners have adult children living with them – 7% of homeowners have working adult children living with them
- Tracks similar to renter data

Renter Living Arrangements



- Sharing a house / apartment with friends or others
- Cohabiting with spouse / partner (no children)
- Cohabiting with spouse / partner and children
- Living on my own
- Living with children only (no spouse / partner)
- Other

- The majority of renters (38%) are sharing with friends or other people
- Just 8% live on their own

Renter Profile



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Time Spent in Rental Accommodation

6
YEARS

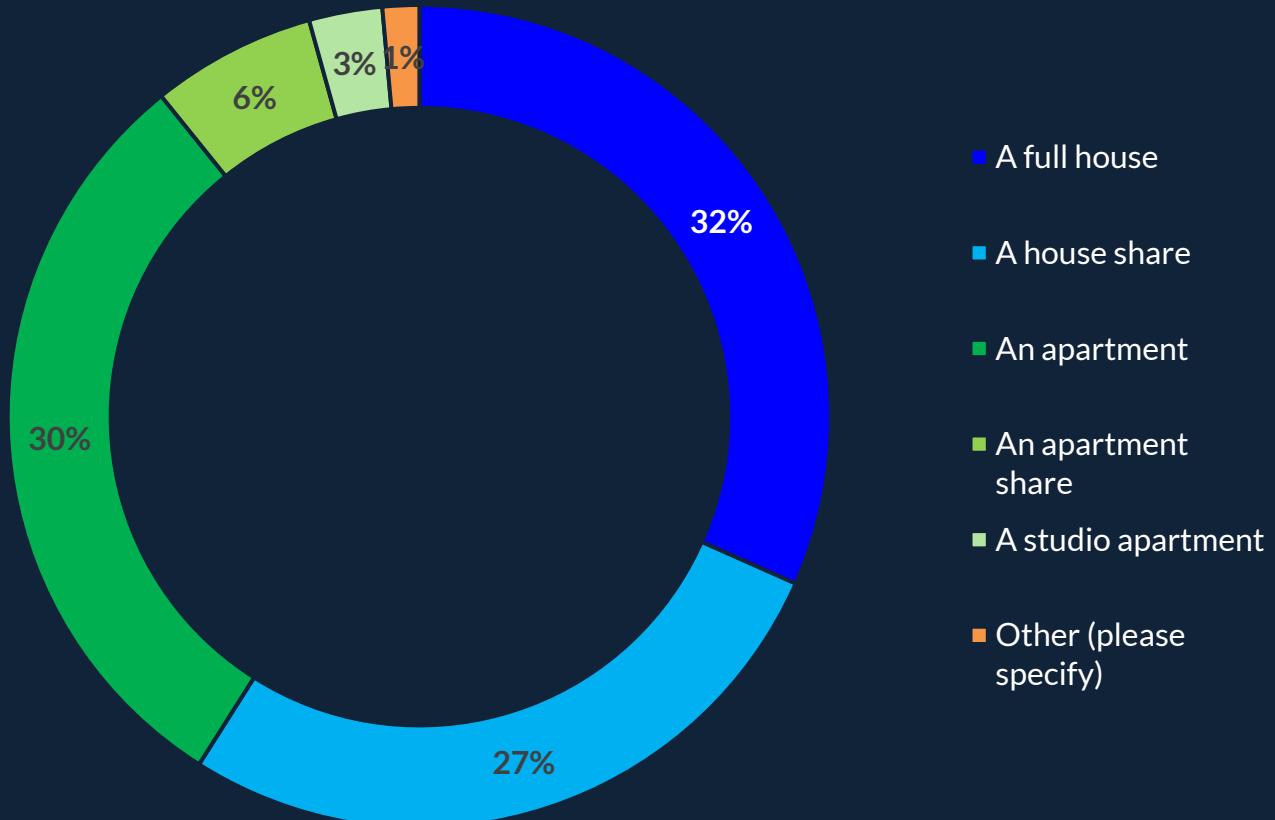
Average time spent so far in rental accommodation for existing renters

No. of Sharers

4
PEOPLE

Median number of people sharing an apartment or house rental

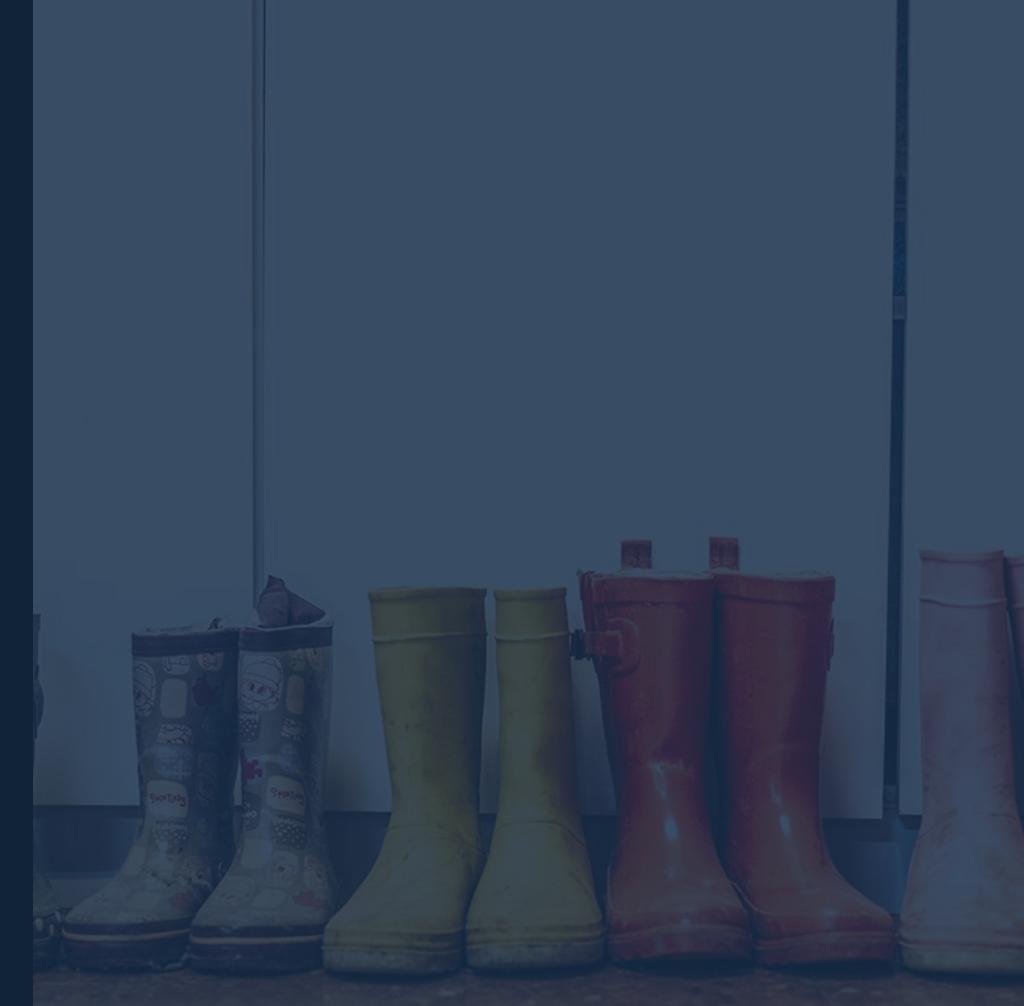
Type of Rental



- A full house
- A house share
- An apartment
- An apartment share
- A studio apartment
- Other (please specify)

- Significant share of renters live in apartments at 39%
- Houses make up 59%

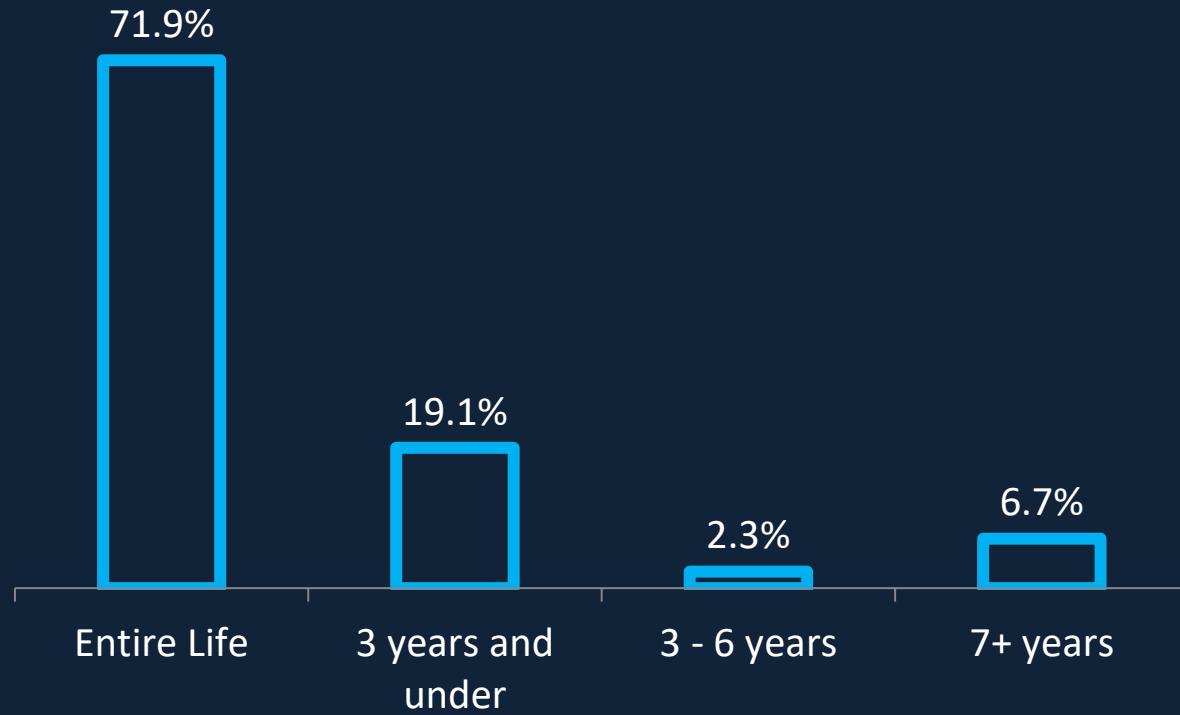
Living with Family Profile



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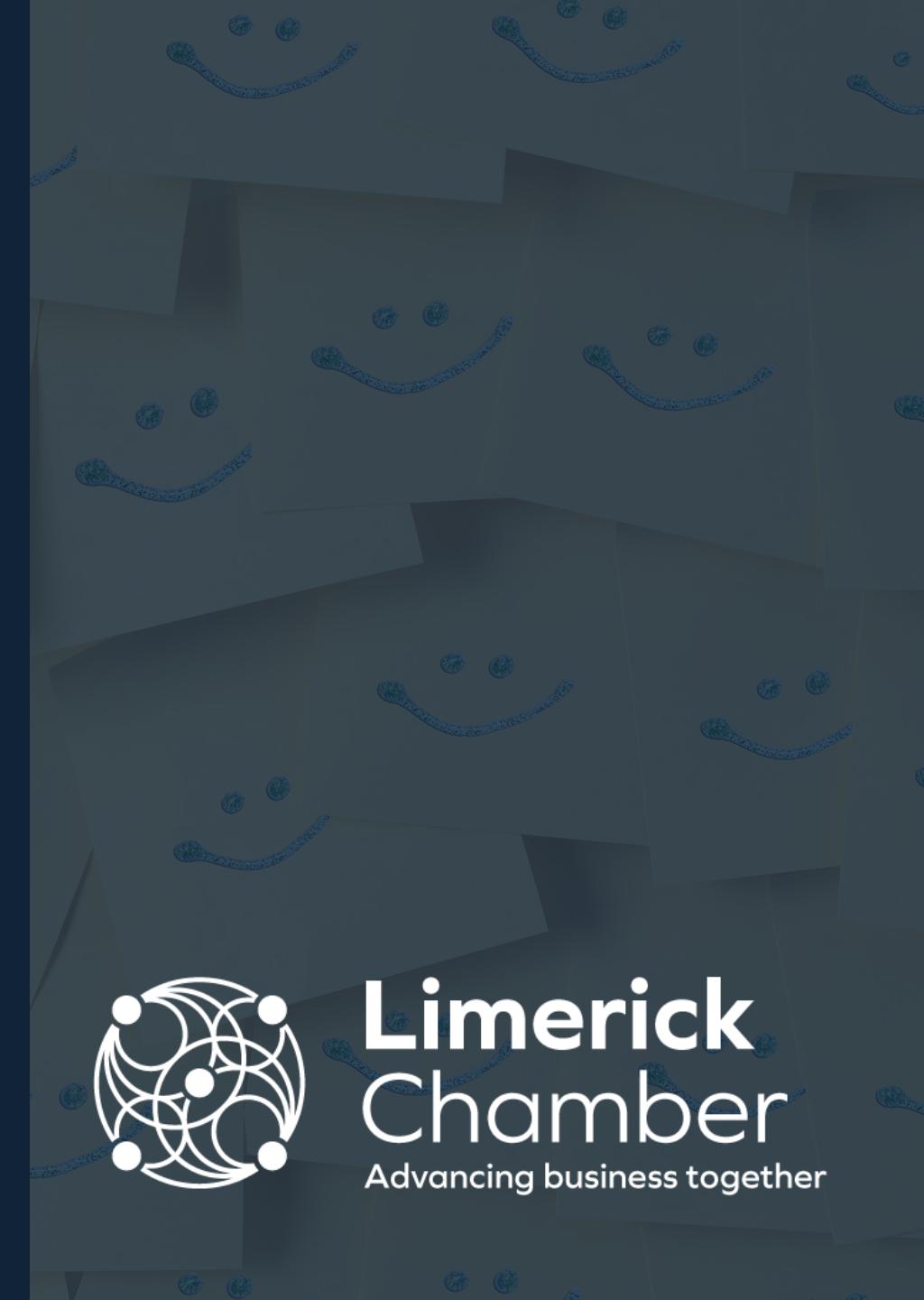
Living with Family

How long have you lived with family?



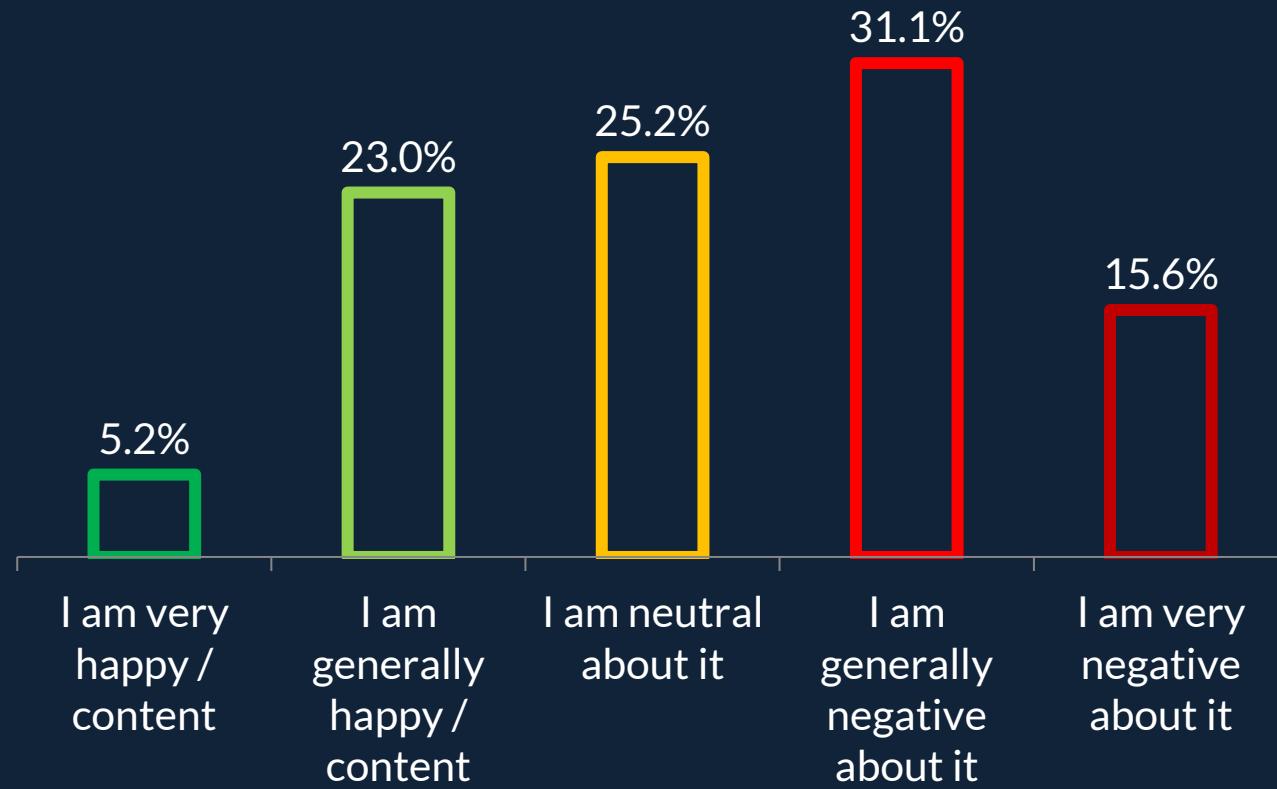
- Almost three quarters of people living with family their entire lives
- Some moved back in later years

Happiness



Renter Happiness

Thinking about living in rented accommodation, to what extent are you happy with this arrangement?



- 46.7% are negative about renting
- 28.2% are positive about renting

Renter Current Dislikes

What aspects of renting do you not like? Select a maximum of five options



83%

Cost of Renting



69%

Dead Money



65%

Uncertainty About
the Future



48%

No Decorating



44%

Lack of Security



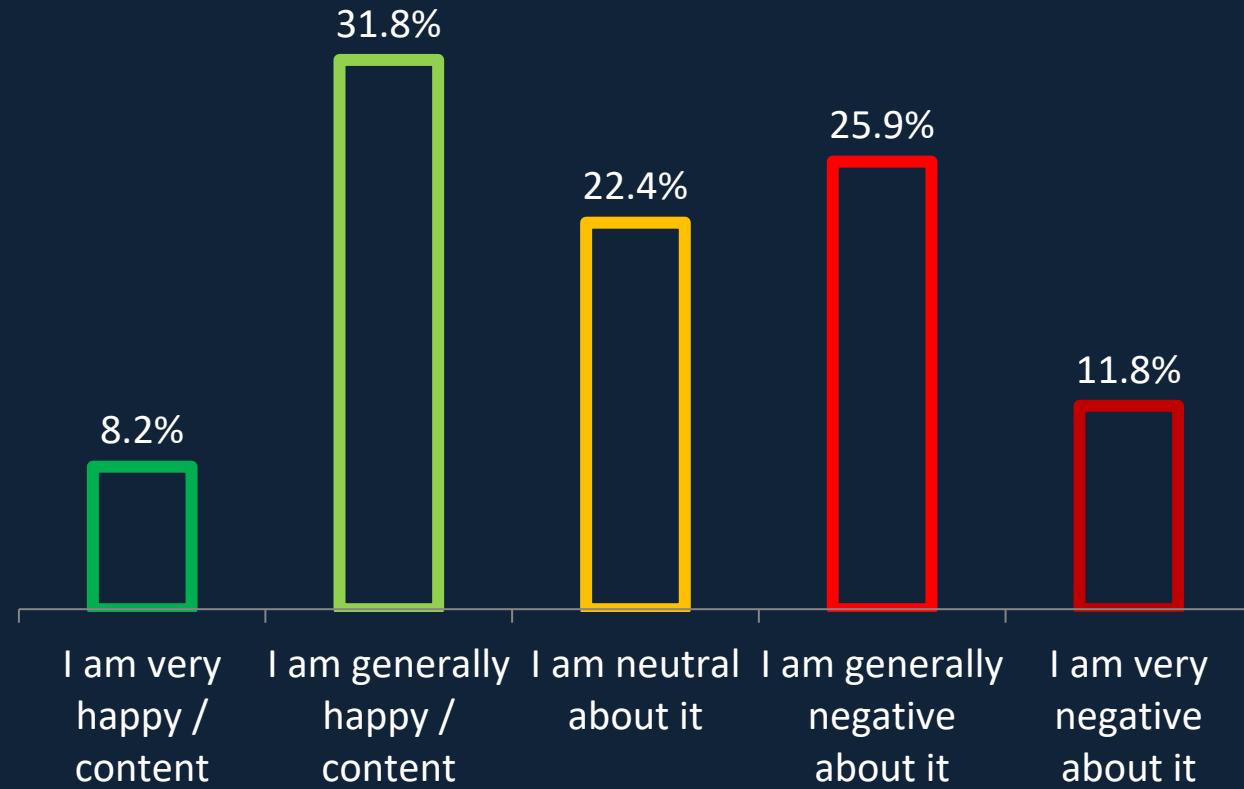
24%

Low Quality
Accommodation

How to interpret: 83% of respondents ranked the cost of renting as being in their top 5 dislikes

Living with Family Happiness

Thinking about living with family, to what extent are you happy with this arrangement?



- 37.7% are negative about living with family
- 40.0% are positive about living with family

Family Current Dislikes

*What aspects about living with parents / family do you not like?
Select a maximum of five options*



66%

Lack of privacy / space



58%

Feeling trapped due to housing costs



42%

Not being able to afford independence



41%

Uncertainty about the future



38%

Space for visitors



34%

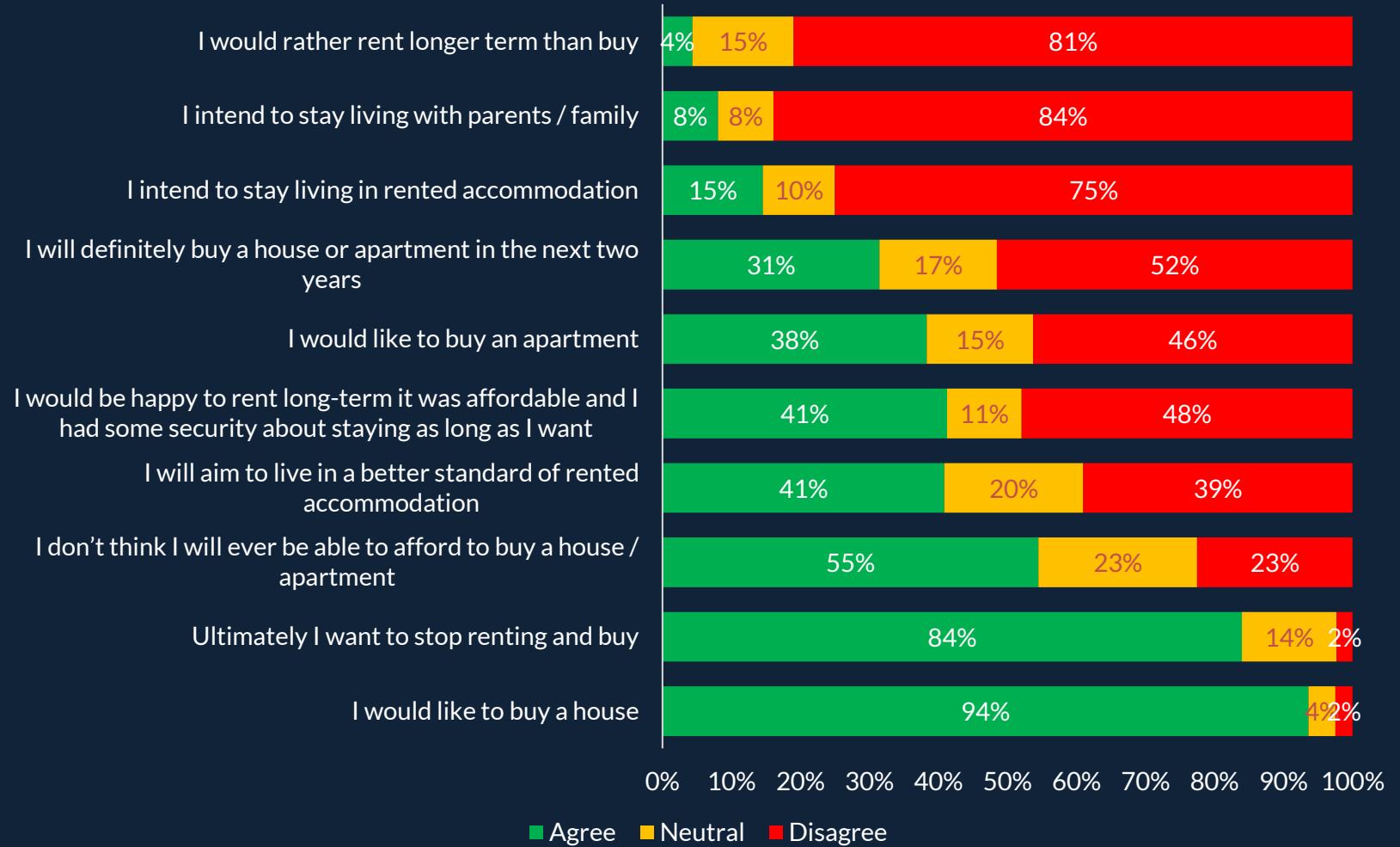
Feeling infantilised

How to interpret: 66% of respondents ranked the lack of space / privacy as being in their top 5 dislikes

Aspirations & Desire



Aspirations



- Homeownership, in particular, owning a house, is the ultimate goal (94%).
- 55% think they will never be able to afford to buy a house or apartment
- Desire to rent longer-term increases with affordability and security
- Only a third believe they will definitely buy a house or apartment in the next two years
- 38% would like to buy an apartment

How to interpret: 94% of respondents would like to buy a house

Desirable Elements

Thinking about a house or apartment you might rent for the longer term, which of the following elements would you want to have? Please select a maximum of five options



86%

Affordable



75%

Secure Tenure



65%

Car Parking



44%

Green / Outdoor



35%

Work from Home



34%

Furnished

How to interpret: 83% of respondents ranked affordable as being in their top 5 desirable elements

Desirable Apartment Elements

*Which of the following factors would encourage you to live in an apartment? Please select a maximum of five options (*excluding car parking)*



63%

Affordable



48%

Proximity to Work



43%

Proximity to Services



44%

Modern Amenities



35%

Indoor and
Outdoor Space



34%

Safety and
Security Features

How to interpret: 63% of respondents ranked affordable as being in their top 5 desirable elements

Concerns

Which of the following concerns might discourage you from living in an apartment? Please select a maximum of five options



54%

Lack of outdoor / private space



53%

Noise Levels



45%

Limited Privacy



52%

Lack of Parking



46%

Lack of Living Space



34%

Lack of Storage

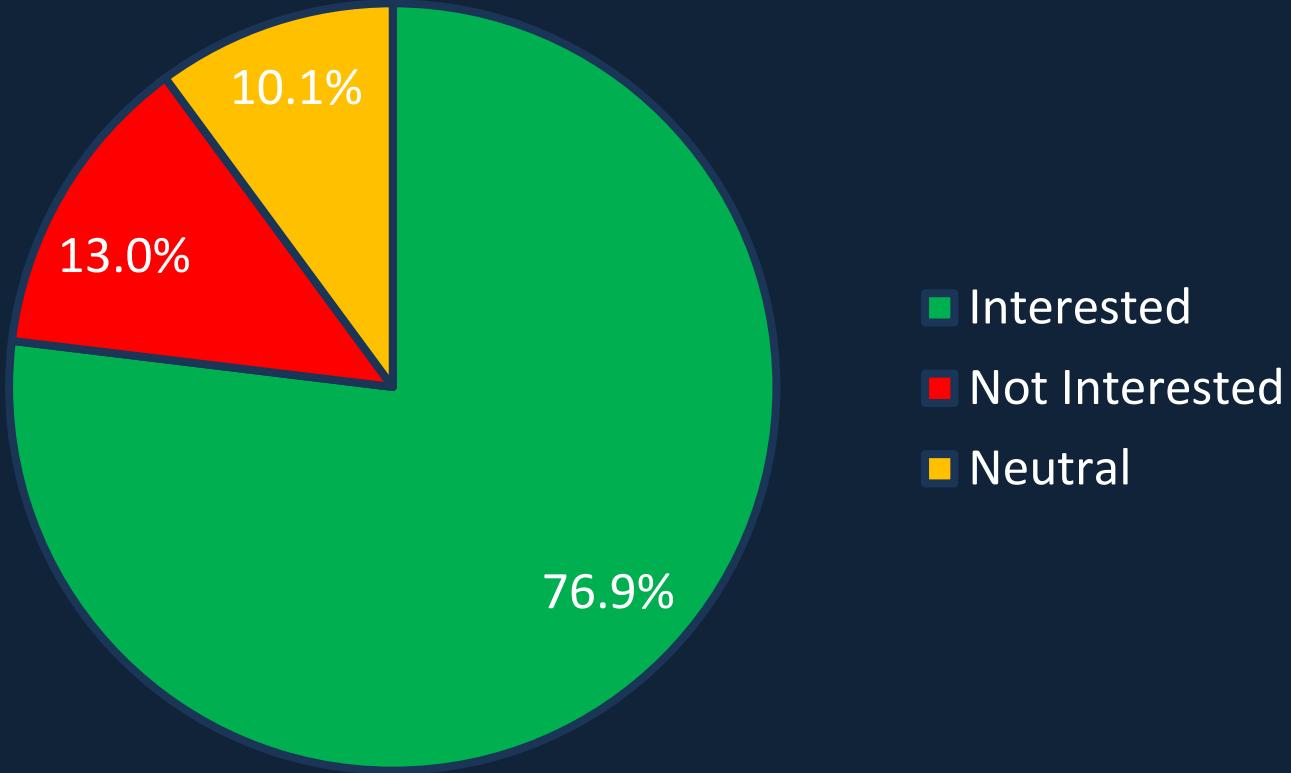
- *7% have no concerns around apartment living*

How to interpret: 54% of respondents ranked lack of outdoor / private space as being in their top 5 concerns

Affordable Apartments

If affordable apartments were available near your workplace, how interested would you be in living there?

Affordable in an Irish context means rent that is 25% less than current market rents



- Huge support for affordable apartments, but not as big as you would think.

Transport Patterns



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Transport

How do you usually travel to work?



82.2%

Car



6.9%

Bus



7.4%

Walk



0.0%

Work from Home



1.5%

Bicycle



2.0%

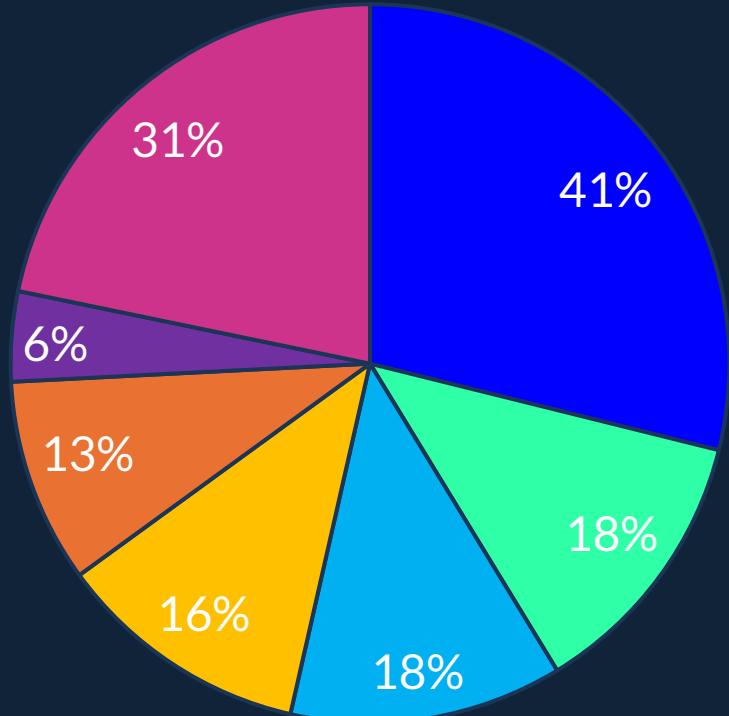
Other

- *Car most popular across all age cohorts*
- *Renters and those living with family less likely to work from home than homeowners*

How to interpret: 82.2% of respondents primarily use a car to travel to work

Cars & Public Transport

Why do you normally commute to work by car rather than public transport?

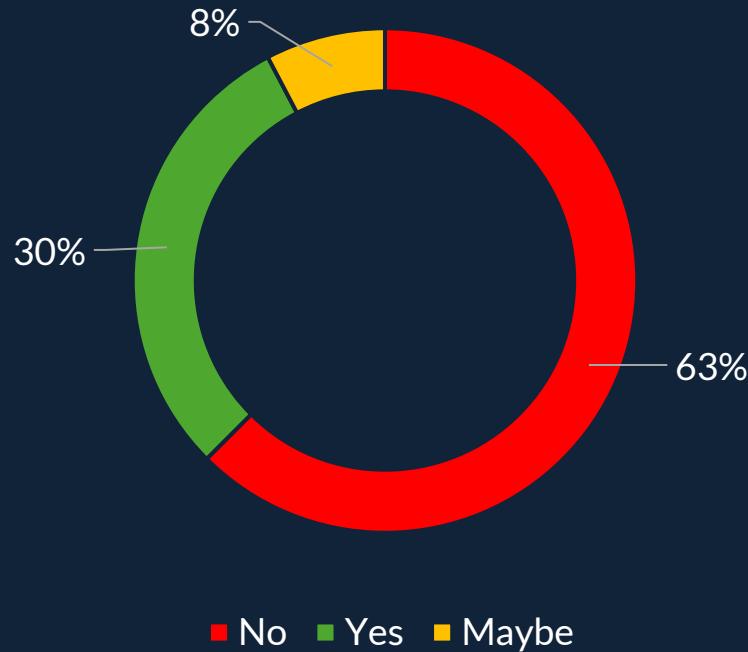


- My work place is not on a bus route
- I need a car during the day
- I need to collect / drop children
- Past experience of public transport has not been positive
- I don't want to use public transport
- I visit shops etc. while out
- Other

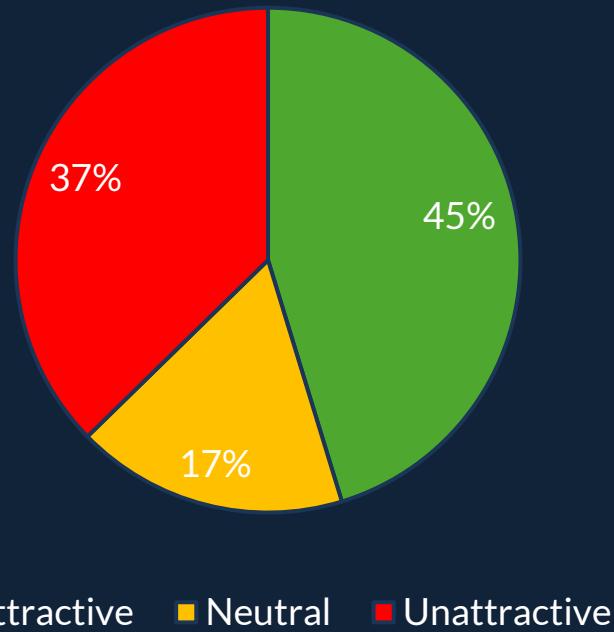
“Other” = *living rurally, travel for work, company card, bus stop to long of a walk, public transport takes too long, bus times do not suit, convenience*

Attractiveness of Limited Parking

Would you consider living in an apartment building that offers limited or no private car parking, if it has good access to public transport and shared mobility options (e.g., car share, bike share)?



If you were able to find appropriate accommodation (with limited car parking) that meant you could readily commute on public transport, and not have to own / use a car, how attractive an option would this be to you?



Maybe / Neutral = depends on frequency of public transport, offsite parking, low cost parking but not free, safety, security, noise, proximity to work

Need to keep in mind annual Housing Commission demand of c. 2,000 to c. 4,000 which equates to 600 to 1,200 apartment demand

Unattractiveness of Limited Parking



81.3%

Need a car for
outside work
trips



55.9%

Need a car for
shopping



43.6%

Public transport
would only suit some
trips



32.2%

Need a car for
children



31.6%

Public transport
too slow



14.6%

Public transport
Overcrowded

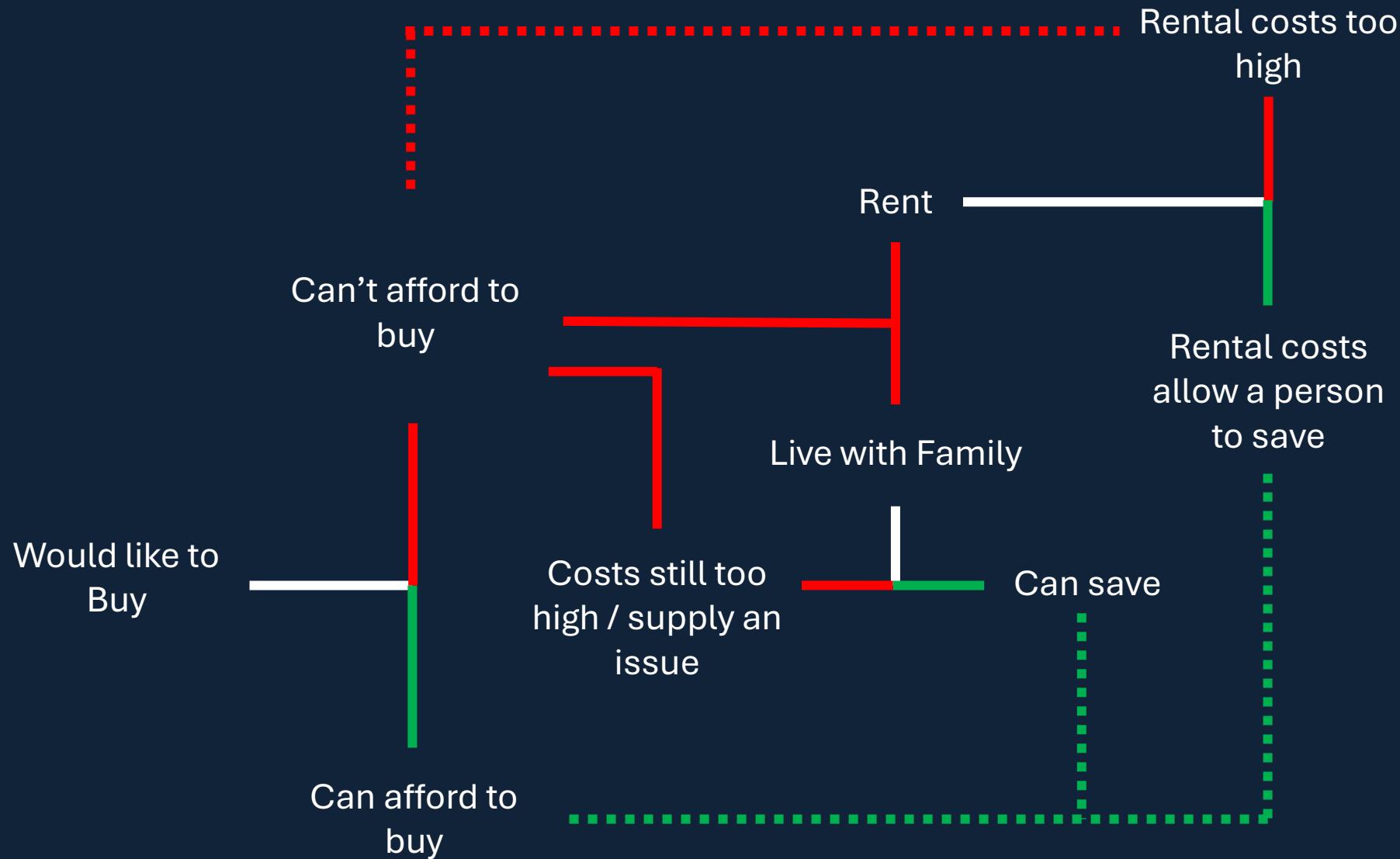
How to interpret: 81.3% do not like the thought of not owning a car or having space for a car because they need to use it for trips outside work

Housing Emergency?



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The Housing Trap



Housing Emergency?

Do you think a housing emergency should be declared?

Homeowners

65% YES

19% UNSURE

16% NO

Renters & Living with Family

86% YES

11% UNSURE

4% NO